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Poetry.

THE BUBBLE AT THE BRIM.

SAMUEL MINTURN PECK.

Oh, see it gayly smiling
And lightly dancing up;
How winsome and beguiling
It peeps across the cup!
Beware, or 'twill enchant you
As it beckons from the rim;
"Come, kiss me, darling, can't you?"
Laughs the bubble at the brim.

How tenderly it flushes,
How modestly it flies!
It apes a maiden's blushes
When dreams of love arise.
It softly sings and glistens,
Like the shining seraphim—
But woe to him who listens
To the bubble at the brim.

Perhaps 'tis Beauty's finger
That fills the rosy glass;
How sweet it is to linger,
How hard it is to pass!
'Tis labor to enrse the revel
When the lights are burning dim;
You are bartered to the devil
By the bubble at the brim.

THE BALLAD OF THE BEGGAR.

BY AUSTIN DOBSON.

The starlings fly in the windy sky,
The rabbits run out a-row,
The pheasants skulk in the stubble dry
As I tramp through the evenglow—
As I tramp, tramp, tramp and grow
More weary with every stride,
And think, as the riders come and go—
If I had a horse to ride!

The farmer trots by on his roadster high,
The squire on his pony low,
Young misses sweep out from the park-gate nigh
And canters away with her beau.
They are proud of themselves—oh, no!
But couldn't I deal in pride,
And couldn't I too cut a dash and a show,
If I had a horse to ride!

The farmer is four times as fat as I,
The squire he is blind and slow,
Young misses may tramp if so bright an eye
As Bess at the "Barley Mow."
And wouldn't I cry "Gee-hup, Gee-ho!"
And wouldn't I bang his side,
And wouldn't I teach him to gallop it, though,
If I had a horse to ride?

ENVOY.

Is was only a beggar that grumbled so,
As his blistered feet he plied;
But the cry is a cry that all of us know—
If I had a horse to ride!

Our Story Teller.

AN UNEXPLAINED MYSTERY.

BY FRANCIS FOOTE.

The few facts concerning myself, which I am about to relate, I have told to but one person—my wife—and she, but you will understand as you read.

My reason for keeping silence during so many years were purely selfish ones. I hated notoriety, and I feared that my law practice would suffer. But now my reputation is established, my income is large, and my clients many. I am advancing in years, and my story which would have been regarded in my younger days as the outgrowth of a diseased imagination, may now be considered a startling fact, worthy of scientific explanation. From my childhood I have always been called peculiar. I was bright, entertaining, good natured, but while these qualities were always recognized in me by my friends, they never failed to add that in some way I was different.

"What is it?" I would ask; "am I moody, sulky, reserved or cynical?" "Ah, no," would be the answer; "nothing of that kind, you are simply peculiar. It can't be explained in any other way."

Of course I thought about it a great deal, and would ponder about my makeup, endeavoring to decide wherein my peculiarity lay. At the age of twenty I had arrived at this conclusion. It was the result of my vivid imagination, and my extreme sensitiveness to certain outside influences. I was sixteen when I first became aware of a power (I don't know what else to call it) which was a part of my highly strung nature, the power, possessed by many people in a mild degree, of realizing events before they have happened, only my experience was so vivid, so strong, so sudden, that it seemed almost supernatural.

My younger brother had gone down to the pond to skate. I was reading a most interesting book when suddenly, in the midst of a chapter, a curious sensation began to creep over me. My limbs grew stiff, my hands clinched, body seemed petrified, but my brain was never so bright, it was all bright, yet I had but one thought—a boy, my brother, skating, a thin place in the ice, a crash, and he was struggling in the water. Another boy, older, myself without doubt, running rapidly towards the spot carrying a rope. This was no second sight, I could not see it, but the idea, the thought, passed and repassed through my brain until at last it seemed to snap, my body relaxed, and I was myself, nothing remaining but the memory, and the impulse to run, to the pond. I found a rope and without waiting to get into my coat I hastened towards the pond. As I gained the shore, I saw my brother in the distance skating rapidly backwards. As I began to arrange the rope he waved his hand gaily, there was a crackle of ice, a cry, and he had disappeared. I hurried over the pond, and when he came up for the second time he had grasped my line, and I had him on firm ice. When it was all over my sensation cannot be described, but I was so sensitive that I could tell no one of my strange experience, and when my father asked how I happened to be there just then with a rope, I said with a nervous laugh, that it must have been instinct or fate.

Four years went by, and I had passed through no similar experience until one day, the last of a college term. I had just sent a telegram that I would reach home on a certain train, and was packing my valise when an old remembered stiffness began to steal over my limbs. I tried at first to shake it off, then gave myself up to it completely. I saw, I meant I imagined so strongly that it was almost sight, an express train leave a crowded station, a tall dark man was pushing through the mob, a man who resembled me. But with all his efforts he was too late to board the last car, and stood striking his cane against the side of the platform. Then my thoughts changed. The same man was standing in front of a bulletin board reading with count of an accident which had just occurred, an expression of horror on his face.

When I came to myself I was terribly excited. Towards what did it all tend? Was I to miss my train, ought I to miss my train? Was this a warning, or the shadow of an event? I was not superstitious, and I decided to let matters take their course. My train left at 3 p. m. At 2:30 I seated myself in a horse car prepared for anything. In about fifteen minutes the car gave a few jerks, then came to a standstill. The passengers crowded out, and I discovered that both horses were lame, positively refusing to move. If I caught my train I must walk quickly, for no other train was in sight. I hurried on and reached the station just too late to board the last car! I had done my best, but fate was stronger than I. It seemed to me that I was rehearsing a part, repeating myself, for it was almost impossible not to believe that I had passed through it all before.

I did not return to my room, for the next train I must surely catch, and while waiting I went to a hotel near the station for a lunch. There I met several friends, and after a few games of billiards we left the hotel together. In walking to the station we passed the office of a leading newspaper where a large crowd had gathered. Everything returned to my mind. I knew perfectly well what I should read before I looked at the board. "Fearful accident on the 3 o'clock train east. Many lives lost; further particulars later." I turned pale and trembled from head to foot.

"Gad, I don't wonder you are affected, Willis," said one of the men. "Never be down on your luck after this!"

As soon as I was alone I endeavored to think it all over calmly. This second attack differed from my first as you will see, for in this I tried to catch the train which was the opposite of what I thought I did during the state in which I was thrown, while formerly I endeavored to follow out to the letter, my mental experience. I could not persuade myself to tell any one; even my chum was utterly ignorant of it, and gradually the remembrance grew faint until it seemed to me at times as if it had never happened.

All this has been preliminary, almost unnecessary except as you can trace its connection with the most peculiar event of my life.

I had been admitted to the bar, and although young, was slowly gaining a front position in my profession. One morning I received an invitation to a select dinner party from one of my clients, "where," he said, "you may meet some people who may be of use to you." Of course I accepted and thought no more about it until the night of the dinner came. I was struggling with my dress coat, for which I had grown a little broad when for the third, and I hope the last time in my life, I felt that peculiar sensation creeping over me. I fell into a chair and waited. It seemed as if I were being bound from tip to toe in icy bands, and this time instead of thinking, I saw, although my eyes were closed, a dinner party, only one face distinct, and that the face of a man never to be forgotten. He was light and thin, with prominent cheek bones, an intellectual forehead, piercing blue eyes, and a cold, wicked mouth, almost covered by a heavy moustache; a face which was under complete control, but which would be fearful in anger, relentless and unforgiving. The dinner was over, the man had left the house and reached a hack at the end of the street. At the hack window I distinctly saw a woman's face, brought out clearly by the flickering light at the corner. A face sad with unshed tears, anxiety written in every line and yet beautiful in spite of its pallor, because of its finely cut features and purity of expression.

The man entered the hack. I heard a few words in an undertone, then the girl with a low cry exclaimed; "Where is he? Coward, you have deceived me!" Then everything grew dark and my mind became more active. There was some evil plan in preparation and I was to be the instrument in saving the girl. Save her I must, and at this point there was a buzzing in my ears, and I was myself once more. I looked at my watch. I had been ten minutes in the state. I knew perfectly well that I should meet this man at the dinner, and now how should I plan to follow him in the hack? I would have my carriage of my own just around the corner, leave the house a moment after him, and place the rest in the hand of fortune.

But this planning had taken time, and dinner had been announced when I reached my host's house. My seat at the table was on his left, and I slipped quietly in with a murmured apology. There were ten of us in all, four of whom I knew. My host introduced the man on my left, and then I glanced slowly around the table. As my eyes reached the lower corner of the table I almost lost my self-control. I had found my man. He was talking brilliantly, evidently entertaining all at his end of the table with little effort. In a few moments I asked my host who he was.

"Why that is Manning," he replied, "the successful broker, known everywhere. Risky as the dickens, but sharper than steel. Don't get his ill-will and he will do you a good turn, although he cares for few friends. I will introduce you after dinner."

It seemed as if hours passed before we adjourned to the drawing-room for whist, but finally we were all comfortably seated at the card tables. Strangely enough, in cutting for positions, Mr. Manning was one of my opponents. We were introduced, and he attempted to read me. I saw that I baffled him from the stealthy way in which he watched me during the game. Fortune was evidently with me, for we won trick after trick, until finally Manning pulled out his watch and sprang to his feet, saying:

"My luck is nowhere, and it is better to leave when that is the case; besides, I have an engagement."

"Perhaps the old adage, 'unlucky at cards lucky in love,' will prove true, I said, dryly.

The words seemed to spring from my lips unknown to me, but I kept my countenance perfectly. Manning laughed mirthlessly.

"Who knows? Stranger things that that have happened," and he left the room.

As soon as he had gone I rose hurriedly. "I also have an engagement, and if you will pardon me I will join you. Perhaps I can catch Manning in the dressing-room and can walk down together."

It was so late when I had reached the house that I had placed my coat in the hall. The front door had just closed on Manning. I could near him running down the stoop as I got into my ulster. I waited a moment, then followed him. The night was dark and windy, but I could distinguish his form a block away. The carriage, as I had seen it, stood at the corner. He said a few words to the driver as he opened the door. Yes, their was the face at the window. I heard the same low cry: "Where is he? Coward, you have deceived me."

For a moment my brain reeled. I thought I was going mad, but I quickly recovered myself. My hack was waiting, and jumping in I ordered the man to follow that other carriage to the end. We passed through street after street, now turning a corner at a break-neck pace, now almost creeping over the pavements. At length my driver reined in with a jerk, and opened the door, saying, with a cunning leer:

"I thought maybe you wanted for to keep in the dark, so I didn't drive no nearer. Tother hack has just stopped up street. Shall I wait for yer?"

"Yes, wait for me here," I cried, and hurried up the street just in time to see an empty carriage drive away from a gloomy looking brick house in the centre of a block. Then the idea came to me that I was on a fool's errand. What had I, a stranger, to do with this girl or this man? If she were unhappy, had she not brought it upon herself? and yet why had the vision come to me if I had not been appointed as her preserver? Yes, bold, mad though it might seem, I would rescue her from the toils of this man. Possibly the beauty, the purity of her face unconsciously had much to do with my resolution. Be that as it may, my mind was made up, and I would leave no stone unturned.

I had just passed the house for the third time, when the door opened and a man came down the steps. My presence of mind did not desert me, and I walked leisurely up to the door of the next house, whistling softly as I fumbled in my pocket for a latch key. Manning, for it was he, did not glance in my direction, and after lighting a cigar walked rapidly down the street. There was certainly nothing for me to do that night, so I wrote down the number of the house, read the name of the street from a neighboring lamp-post, called the hack, and had soon reached my own rooms.

It was impossible for me to sleep, so I remained up all night, planning one scheme after another. I tried to will myself to fall into the trance-like state that I might obtain another clew, but it was in vain. One thing was certain. Whatever plans were made must be carried out by me alone, for if everything should turn out to be legitimate and above board, if I had been duped by myself no one should be the wiser for it.

"Whatever I do," I said to myself, "must be done quickly," and by 10 o'clock the next morning I was on my way towards the strange block, with the foundation of a scheme in my mind, the carrying out of which would depend on further developments.

I reached the house and boldly rang the bell. The echo had hardly died away when the door opened, and a stout, elderly woman, with a scowl between her eyes, confronted me.

"I have come from Mr. Manning with a message for the young lady," I said.

"What young lady?" she muttered.

"The one who arrived with him late last night," I replied mysteriously.

"I have orders that she ain't to see any one except the master himself, and I don't know who you are, anyway," the scowl between her eyes deepening.

"I know, my good woman," I said, persuasively; "but it is very important; Mr. Manning could not come, so I am here in his place. You don't know me, but you must know that I have a knowledge of the whole affair, and am to be trusted." All this was a venture, and on it I staked everything. The brows of the woman unbent.

"You come in," she said, "and I'll send her down. It must be all right, or how should you know?"

At last I was fairly in the house, waiting in a dark, stuffy room, while my heart beat violently, waiting for what?

The door opened, and the girl whom I had seen twice in my life stood before me. She was very pale, and the lines of her face were drawn as if she were suffering, still her voice was wonderfully self-controlled as she said coldly, "For what have you come?"

"I am here as your friend," I replied eagerly, as I walked towards her. For a moment her race brightened, but immediately she suppressed all signs of emotion and said:

"Do not lie to me. You are here as his agent. That is enough. If you have brought new proposals from him, say no more. I refuse them all without a hearing. Good morning."

But I had reached the door before her, crying, "You shall hear me, and you will, you must believe," and then in quick impetuous words I told her the whole story, commencing with my strange trance.

When I had finished there were tears in her eyes as she said brokenly: "O, sir, I do believe you as implicitly as I believe that there are protecting powers of which we know nothing. Let me tell you my story that you may see how I have been wronged, and to what measures that man will stoop to accomplish his purpose.

"Mr. Manning is my father's second cousin. When my father died we came here, and as his affairs were very much involved, mother sent to this cousin, whom I had never seen, thinking he might assist us in straightening things out. He came directly and was very gracious and kind, but under his manner there was something which I instinctively feared and distrusted. He took very little notice of me, seldom speaking to me except in regard to business, and I avoided him as much as I could without appearing rude. After matters were settled he came once or twice a week to tea, 'in a cousinly fashion' he said, and about that time he commenced to watch me. Sit where I would in the room I could never escape those pale, cold eyes which followed every movement. Sometimes the expression in them terrified so that I could not shake off the impression. I grew nervous and thin but I did not tell mamma, for she liked Mr. Manning and he had always been kind and courteous. At length he came one afternoon when I was alone, for mamma and my little brother Charlie had gone for a long walk. I told him that they were away, and immediately he seated himself on the sofa by me and said:

"The opportunity for which I have been waiting has come. You know that I love you. Will you be my wife?"

"I could not control the feeling of dread and repulsion that came to me as I pushed away his hand which was seeking mine, and cried: 'Oh no, anything but that.'

"His eyes seemed to shoot steel, his whole expression changed to one of fierce determination as he said, calmly enough:

"'Not so hasty, my young lady, you will live to rue that remark and your movement of distrust, as if my touch would sully your purity. I tell you, you will be my wife, and now I will leave you to think of the future which is in store for you.'

"I was alone. It all seemed a fearful nightmare until mother returned and I had wept out my story on her bosom. She was indignant at his threat, but smoothed it over by telling me that a man of his temperament was in love he did not stop to choose his words, but that after Mr. Manning had recovered from his anger at my unexpected refusal, he would regret his unkindness and would show by his actions that he wished the past forgotten. I was comforted by my mother's words, and when at the close of the week, Mr. Manning called and treated me as if nothing had occurred I was even cheerful. Two weeks passed, and although we saw him often he never by word or look showed that he preferred me to my mother or brother.

"I had begun to think that his love had been but a passing fancy, when one evening as I was returning from the library a hand was placed on my shoulder. I knew instinctively that it was Mr. Manning, and tried to wrench myself away, but his grasp was too strong.

"'And so you still utterly refuse my love?' he whispered.

"'Utterly,' I said.

"'Very well,' he continued, 'the time is near at hand when your pride will be bent. Then you shall sue at my feet, and the victory will be mine.'

"He suddenly relaxed his hold and walked rapidly on, soon disappearing entirely.

"I reached home in a state of nervous excitement. Was this man with his odious threats to haunt me continually? I said nothing of this at home, for poor mother had trouble enough of her own, and everything went on as usual.

"Mr. Manning came to the house frequently, but instead of avoiding me as he had at first, he assumed a new role. Now, he was my sincere friend and well wisher. He asked my opinions and in turn advised me, always in the most off-hand, brotherly fashion. I ceased to suspect him and was happier than I had been for many weeks.

"Four days ago my little brother was sent on an errand. Night came and he had not returned. We were very much alarmed, and after we had searched the neighborhood, notified the police. All that night we waited anxiously for news but none came. The following morning Mr. Manning appeared. He seemed very much concerned, and said directly that he would do everything in his power to find Charlie. The police were stupid. The boy had probably been kidnapped. He would send out detectives on his own account.

"Mother had given up all hope, when yesterday afternoon I received a note from Mr. Manning in which he said: 'Meet me at the corner of K street this evening at nine o'clock. I have hopeful news of Charlie. Without doubt we shall bring him home. Will send a hack. Would come myself, but I have a dinner.'

"Mother and I wept and laughed over the note, and I acknowledged to her that I had wronged the man. He was indeed our friend. No suspicion of a trap entered my mind until the driver stopped at the corner where he was to meet me, and then I dismissed the idea as unworthy. I heard his step on the sidewalk, he opened the door. 'My brother,' I said eagerly. 'Where is he?'

"'Your brother will be found,' he answered, as he closed the door, 'when you say you will be mine, not before, and now you are in my power.'

"'Coward,' I cried, 'you have deceived me.' I tried to call for help, but he covered my mouth with his hand while he told me that screams were of no avail, that he did not wish to use force with me, and it would be better all around if I could be sensible."

"During the whole story she had spoken mechanically, her eyes fixed on the carpet. Now she shuddered and clinched her hands fiercely.

"The rest I will not dwell on," she continued after a slight pause, "it is too painful. He talked of his love for me, and I covered my ears with my hands. With all his villainy he did not dare to touch me, and at last he left me a prisoner here, saying that he should come to-night for his answer. He will invent some story to quiet my mother, and here I am, his victim, with no one in the world to assist me."

She broke down and wept bitterly. I was shocked beyond measure. Such cold-blooded villainy I had seldom read of, but I would outwit him, save the girl, and compel him to give up her brother.

"In spite of all you have endured you can trust me?" I asked calmly. She nodded.

"Then put on your hat and come with me."

"But the housekeeper prevented me this morning from leaving the house."

"I hardly think force will be necessary," I said significantly. She understood and left the room. I immediately rang a bell I discovered in the room and the housekeeper appeared.

"Where is Miss Kendricks?" she asked suspiciously.

"Miss Kendricks is going to Mr. Manning's office with me," I said.

"But I have strict orders from my master."

"And I have stricter ones from him," I replied; "and Miss Kendricks is to go with me."

The woman withdrew, shaking her head, and Miss Kendricks returned. I opened the boltedfront door, and we were in the open air. She drew a long breath and her lips quivered. "How can I ever thank you," she commenced; then, seizing my hand, "I never can in words, but—"

"Say no more," I urged; "it was decreed by some higher power that I should do this, and my reward has come since by it I have met you."

I hailed a passing carriage and we were driven to her house, where I left her after I had promised to come in the evening and tell her what I should plan in the meantime for the recovery of her brother.

Well, to make a long story short, I called on Mr. Manning and told him frankly that Miss Kendricks had escaped him; that she had employed me as her lawyer and told me the whole story. He had committed a criminal offence, but if he would retore the boy and promise never to attempt anything of the kind again Miss Kendricks was willing to let the matter drop. He tried a game of bluff at first, but I was too much for him, so he finally came to my terms.

Whether he ever mistrusted that it was through me Miss Kendricks escaped, is a question which has always puzzled my wife and myself, for of course you have all suspected that Miss Kendricks is Helen, my wife, that I fell in love with her directly, and that she, out of gratitude, returned it. No, I think she loved me for myself, as I did her.

This is my story. Can any one explain it? Although I have dabbed extensively in metaphysics I can find no power which coincides with this peculiar gift which has come to me at three separate times. Yet the experience must have been mine. Have I not Helen for a living proof? She says that we were foreordained for each other, and this was the only way in which it could be arranged; still that does not explain in the slightest degree the mystery.

DR. DOUGLAS'S LOSS.

All His Memoranda of Gen. Grant's Illness Lost or Stolen.

Dr. Douglas, the physician who attended Gen. Grant in his last illness, met with a serious loss Thursday evening. He suspects thieves to be at the bottom of it. He had made arrangements to spend the winter in the South, intending to devote the time to writing the medical history of Grant's last illness. All of the data, extensive memoranda and many of the surgical instruments used in the case were in a leather satchel or Gladstone bag. This satchel was placed on a cab and Dr. Douglas started out with his wife to visit his children in East Seventeenth street before going to the train. After bidding them good-bye, he went to the Desbrosses street ferry. As he stopped, the cabman got off and tapped at the window.

"What is it?" asked Dr. Douglas.

"The black bag is gone," said the cabman. If the adjoining buildings had fallen in upon him Dr. Douglas could not have been more shocked. Here, within a moment, the work of months was swept away, and with it all the material which might have made its reproduction possible. Dr. Douglas at once abandoned his trip and returned home.

The bag has not yet been returned, and whether it will ever be seen again is very doubtful. Dr. Douglas is hopeful of recovering the bag, although greatly despondent.

"If I don't find it," he said, "my life work is gone. I can never hope to replace it. Neither Dr. Barker nor Dr. Shrady kept such complete memoranda, and, unless the bag is found, the medical history of Gen. Grant's illness will never be written."

Dr. Douglas gave up all his other practice in order to devote his entire time to the general. He was constant in attendance, and he alone kept the daily and almost hourly record of the progress of the fatal malady which slowly but surely ate away his famous patient's life. Outside of its popular interest, the story of the disease told technically would be of the greatest interest and importance to surgeons the world over. Cancer is a disease which baffles the skill of the best physicians, and any light which can be thrown upon its nature, treatment and cure would be a public benefit. No case of cancer was ever watched carefully, studied more thoroughly, or a more careful record kept of its insidious advances. A book was kept in the general's room, in which the temperature, pulse and other general symptoms of the patient were marked down from hour to hour. After Gen. Grant's death this book remained in Dr. Douglas's possession, together with a great mass of other data incidental to the case. He has been engaged for months past in writing a history of the case from this material.—*New York Letter.*

SALMON P. CHASE.

Some of the Stories Donn Piatt Tells About Him.

I remember visiting the Ohio penitentiary with him while he was governor of the state. Returning, we walked to the capitol. After a long silence the governor said, "There is not much difference between the convicts imprisoned in those walls and the ordinary run of people outside." This did not surprise me, for I had long before learned my friend's character blindness; but when he continued I was surprised: "These poor fellows are not wicked, they are weak; they have not sense enough to be cautious, nor have they enough strength of character to resist temptation. The law catches the small rogues; the big rascals are too wary to approach the net. I think sometimes that our criminals are not in the penitentiary, but in the churches. The cool, selfish villains wear the cloak of religion, and hedge themselves about with intense respectability. They are our bad men, and from them we suffer."

"Yes," I added, "that was the sort that crucified Christ. He suffered not for his treason, but that he was a low person—the associate of the poor, and an agrarian who taught that property was continuous theft, before that Frenchman made his discovery. The wealthy mose and sous, the high priests, the aristocrats of that day and place, just sickened over such vulgar notions."

"You do wrong," said my friend, "to habituate yourself, ae I perceive you do, to vulgarizing the great truths of revelation. It was an awful event, and the motives and passions of poor human nature have been what they may. We should see only our Christ crucified, and not the horrible crowd that did the deed without knowing what they did."

Here was no cant, not the slightest shade of hypocrisy in this rebuke. Chase was truly of a deep religious nature. He believed with the trusting faith of a child in the truths of revelation, not as an abstract thing, separate and apart from his daily life. It colored all his character, and entered into the most minute details of his life.

HE FELL ASLEEP,

And Then They Had the Laugh on the Minister.

"It is strange how hard it is for a person who has been asleep and has waked up again to judge how long he has slept," said an aged Baptist minister to me to-day. "Several days ago I attended a Baptist revival in the mountain region of Virginia, where the population was sparse, where religious privileges were scant, and where preaching was a great treat to the people. Not content with three sermons a day at the meeting-house, a number of preaching services were held at different private houses in the evening. One evening a young brother named Smith was appointed to preach at a private house, and I was requested to go along, to give him countenance, and to follow him with an exhortation. A goodly congregation, for those parts assembled, and everything went well until Brother Smith took his text and started to preach. But the weather was warm, and I had worked hard all day and was very sleepy; and as I had tilted my chair against the wall and taken a perfectly easy posture, I instantly sank into a profound slumber. When I awoke a brother was jogging me and saying, 'Won't you make some remarks?' I looked around in astonishment. Brother Smith had taken his seat. What was I to do? I was to speak, and I hadn't a word of the sermon. Trusting to my tact and ready wit, I arose and proceeded as if I had heard every word. I said that I heartily agreed with Brother Smith's sermon, but that the lateness of the hour forbade any very extended remarks. I was about to launch out into some glittering generalities when every one broke out in a laugh, and I got very much confused and sat down. The truth was that Brother Smith had made a complete fiasco, and hadn't spoken five minutes. I need hardly say that that was the end of that meeting."—*Chicago Journal.*

John R. McLean's Joke.

John McLean, the editor and proprietor of the Cincinnati *Enquirer*, is very fond of a joke, and has the good sense to appreciated one, even at his own expense. Summer before last he was walking rapidly with a friend along Twenty-ninth street in New York. At the corner of Fourth avenue he saw a very hard-up looking fellow standing on the opposite corner gazing listlessly into vacancy. "Watch me surprise this old fellow," said he to his friend. "Look into his face and see if it won't be a study." A second later they were abreast the old chap, when John pulled a silver coin out of his pocket, and said, as he thrust it into the old man's hand, "Here's that quarter I owed you. Now, don't go around any more telling people that I don't pay my debts. I always speak well of you, and you have no reason to do otherwise with me." For a second the man's face was a study. He was amazed at the unlooked-for kindness, and then, as its purport dawned on him, he raised his tattered hat and said: "God bless yer honer, I'll never say another word agin ye, but (and here his eyes twinkled merrily) are ye sure it wasn't a half yez owed me?" The friend roared, and as McLean reddened to the roots of the hair, exclaimed: "Oh, pay the man in full. Don't try to beat him out of a quarter." The Irishman got two halves in addition to his quarter, but the editor no longer pays debts at sight unless demanded.

A New Mrs. Malaprop Overheard.

A lady was lamenting recently the loss of an old family heirloom, which had been purloined by a light-fingered domestic, when she remarked that she prized it "not so much for its 'intricate' value" as that it had been given her by her grandfather."

Written for the Toledo Blade.

PARISIAN SKETCHES.

BY D. R. LOCKE.

NO. VI

DIFFERENT PEOPLES.

To cross the river Seine from any quarter in Paris, you pass through sections inhabited by four peoples as different and distinct from each other as if they came from different provinces, instead of being citizens of the same municipality. You walk down the Boulevard Italians, and you meet only people not only well but tastefully dressed, the women in elegant costumes, and the men faultlessly attired, complete from hat to boots, and so few shabby or ragged clothes as to make the wearers thereof the subject of special remark. You see laborers on this Boulevard in their blouses, and trades people carrying bundles and packages, but the general style of dress is elegant, and the wearers, people of leisure and means to enjoy or endure it, as leisure happens to be a pleasure or an infliction.

The frequenters of this Boulevard and the streets leading to it are the rich, or those who make wit take the place of gold. You are in rich Paris, fashionable Paris, and, when France was a monarchy, noble Paris. Here is where fashion disports itself, and by common consent the people of the city recognizes its right to these streets and does not interfere.

Any afternoon you may see noble women, who are enjoying their silken period, fops and dandies of all nations, a glittering array of feminine and masculine effect in dress and appearance. The great stores are not the mammoth emporiums of the Bon Marche, or the Louvre, which attract attention by vulgar displays of goods and loud advertising, but they are severely beautiful and eminently respectable. The shopmen do no not stand on the sidewalk to invite passers by with anxious greed written all over their faces, but they are dressed in the severest good taste, and look more like retired marquises who are in trade to oblige rather than for profit. They are simply awful in their respectability, showing deference to no one except perhaps the very highest. Woe be to the lady who ventures into one of these places. The presumption is that the goods contained in them are only of the best, such as noble people only wear, and the prices put upon them correspond with the general respectability of the place. You pay a good price for the goods and about as much more for the awful respectability. There is no levity, no lightness in these magazines. From the boy who opens the door to the man who shows the goods there is a height of tone, a breadth of respectability, that is crushing. You do them no favor by entering their establishments—they do you a favor by permitting you to pay two prices for the privilege of saying you bought your goods at so great a place.

All the wealthy and eminently respectables of Paris make the streets in this quarter their promenade, and the people you meet there are all of that class.

A SUDDEN CHANGE.

The Boulevard Sebastopol shows an entirely different class. They are just as respectable, and to democratic natures seem more so, but they are as different as silk is from cotton. On a fete day you meet on this Boulevard the small shop people, the man who sells you a sewing machine, and is not above earning a franc or two by putting it in order, the well to-do bourgeoise, whose wife attends the front of the shop while he superintends the shop in the basement or the rear, who on work days is always found with an apron. On fete days he and his wife are out for their pleasure, he clad in a suit of black, of last year's fashion, wrinkled from being folded and carefully laid away for special use, which only sees the light on special occasions, when it is taken out of its box and brushed. You see the same number of old-fashioned hats on a fete day in this quarter that you do in a St. Patrick procession in America.

Quite as respectable as their neighbors on the fashionable boulevards, they are more noisy in their pleasure, and there is no assumption of dignity at all. They are free from labor for the time, and are making the most of it. They sit in the cafe, where you get refreshments at half the price you do five minutes' walk from there, and they drink the wine and the abominable syrupy drinks which the French so love, or possibly a "bock" of beer, and they eat the cake and cheese of the country, in no languid way, but with a haste and gusto that shows it is not an every day affair, but a treat which is appreciated.

They have their children with them, every one of the toddlers with some toy in which it delights. The French love their children and the middle and lower classes love their wives, and when they have a day to spare to pleasure it would be no pleasure at all if they all did not enjoy it together.

The young couples in this quarter are very far from dignified. You can tell a pair of lovers as far as you can see them, for they do not attempt to conceal the condition of affairs between them, but advertise it with a pride that nothing can suppress. They sit at the little tables like lovers, they eat and drink like lovers, and are as proud of the fact as they can be. There is no nonsense about them. Nature has its sway unrepressed and unchilled by any formalities or conventionalities.

The shops in this quarter are small and the shop-people extremely anxious to sell. There is nothing high-shouldered about them. They invite you to come in, and every art they are masters or mistresses of is employed to make a transaction. You can buy the same goods at half the price you pay on the fashionable streets, and be just as sure of getting quality.

Here the blouse is considered, and it is no discredit for a woman to be shabbily dressed provided she is cleanly in appearance. There are no signs of abject poverty and none of great wealth. Every thing is cheap, good and comfortable, and that is all.

STILL ANOTHER WORLD.

Crossing the Seine you are still in another world. You are in the Latin quarter, of which every novelist in France has written, and which has very peculiar phases of life. Here the rowdy life of Paris begins; not the rowdy of America, the knock down and drag out rowdyism, but the noisy, unrestrained exuberance against which there is no law but which custom sanctions. It is the home of the student and those who live upon the students and affiliate with them.

THE STUDENTS IN THE LATIN QUARTER.

There are something like 8,000 students in the University of France and Sorbonne, gathered from the whole world and all dwelling in one Quarter and living in a very peculiar way. They are regular students of law, medicine, divinity and literature, and add to these many more who are students of art, and quite as many more who pass for students and live with them, because of the companionship and the facilities for cheap dissipation, and it is safe to say that this distinctive class numbers a good 20,000, all mostly young men, though the Quarter is the residence of a vast number of old fangers-on of the press and theater, who live there for the sake of cheapness.

These men occupy rooms in the tops of houses, according to their means. If the father allows the young fellow a decent sort of income, he has perhaps two rooms, and furnishes them with some degree of comfort, but if he is stinted for money, or if amusements are more to his taste than comfortable quarters, he has a room just big enough for a bed, wash stand and trunk, where he sleeps in the uncertain hours when he does sleep, and does what little study he does do.

His regular resort is the cafe, where he sits with his companions, drinks beer if he is not entirely given over, and absinthe if he is; plays cards billiards and dominoes so long as the place is open, and the place is open so long as the sitters have a sou to spend.

The student affects the brigand in everything. He wears his hair long and if it is wavy he prides himself upon it. He has a moustache, if nature has been kind to him, and a full beard, if prodigal. His hat is always a slouch, except upon fete days and Sundays. His trousers are wide at the bottom and of gaudy colors, his vest is never of the same material as his coat, and a switch cane for the effeminate or a club for the sturdy is invariable.

He is great in the cafe, but in the dance-gardens he blossoms out in his full glory. He is the pet of the grisettes, the adoration of the loose women, and the virtuous servant girls and bar-maids sigh for him. He spends his little money recklessly, while he has any, and runs in debt quite as recklessly when he has none. Money or no money, he will have his tobacco, his drink and his amusements. The keepers of the cafes dare not offend him, for there is a sort of free masonry among them, which is their protection. Woe to a cafe proprietor who offends one of them, justly or even inadvertently. He might as well shut his shop at once, for the students are all-powerful in the Quarter, and he will find his trade gradually dropping off till proper amends have been made.

At the balls he is the principal figure. He is gorgeous in his dress and still more gorgeous in his manner. He dances with his hat on (they all do that) and his boots have been freshly cleaned if he be not too poor to sport patent leather, his cuffs are of portentous size and have never been worn more than twice since they last gave a laundry-woman grief for work upon them which has not been paid for. His necktie is an immense bow in very high color, and over that falls a mammoth collar opening so low in the neck as to show the upper part of the breast bone, and whatever he may possess of jewlery, real or fictitious in quality, is shown. It makes no difference with him whether the stones that blaze from his bosom and fingers are genuine or paste. Paste passes in these places, for it is well understood that had he brought diamonds with him at the beginning of his career they would long since have gone the way of all diamonds that are pawn-brokers. It is a common remark, "he has only been here a month, that ring on his finger is a real stone."

THE DANCING.

As for his dancing that is something that borders on the wonderful. He permits no professional to outdo him in the absurdly grotesque or the suggestively indecent. He must lay awake nights to invent new poses, and startling gyrations. It is his delight to display some new absurdity every night, to do something in the dance that never was done before, and that never can be by any one but himself. He has very supple legs, and a body apparently with no more bones in it than a snake, and his facial powers are something miraculous. Could he do the same things upon the regular stage he would make his fortune, but it can't be done on the stage. It requires the surroundings, the stimulant of the peculiar music, the inspiration of the women who are about him, to produce the abandon necessary to the performance. Should he attempt it anywhere else it would be an inexplicable failure. The idea is conceived elsewhere, but the ornamental part of it is born of the hour and of the surroundings. He might go through the same movements elsewhere, but they would lack the vigor and essence that make them so striking here. A negro can only sing the ballads properly in a camp-meeting, under the trees, when he has the power on him.

His life is not a very moral one, that is, what would be considered moral anywhere else. He generally lives on a grisette, helping the rent of the rooms, and, if in funds, the most of the food. The first meal is simply coffee, which she makes, and bread and butter if they have money and can compass butter; he lunches in a cafe and she in the store or shop where she is employed. They dine together in a cafe, and afterward go either home or to cheap theatre. Or, when funds fail, take their pleasure in a promenade and their refreshments in a cafe where he has credit.

When he is not well-to-do she is expected to clothe herself, and when he is completely gone in finances she pays the room rent, food and all. They are together for the time being for better or worse. When his remittances come they live well. For a day or two after the long-anticipated draft arrives they drink cheap champagne and indulge in omelettes for their breakfast, then comes beer for a few days, then cheap wine, and finally water, which they both despise. As an art student he occasionally sells a picture or gets something to do on the illustrated papers, but the result is the same. There is a dividend made among those they owe, luxurious living for a short time, and then bread and water. A student out of debt and with money in his pocket would not be a student at all. He would not feel at home in the Latin quarter but would contemplate going across the river and buying a house.

And so he lives, studying somewhat but not studying a great deal more, till his father gets tired of advancing money and recalls him. Then good-bye to his grisette, good-bye to Paris, he becomes an exile and then everything that could happen to make a good man at his home, but his preparation for the active duties of life have certainly been none of the best.

There are of course, students who are here to study, and do study, but they are not recognizable among the masses. They are so largely in the minority as not to be counted.

The colleges have enjoyed a reputation for hundreds of years, and any nation on earth that has any care for learning is represented here. It is fortunate for the institutions, however, that fathers know nothing of it before they send their sons here. Had this knowledge in advance they would prefer the smallest college in Iowa to the University de France. The son might not know as much of some things, but he would come much better grounded in all that goes to make up an education, as we understand it.

THE GRISETTE.

The Grisette is an institution that Paris only possesses, and perhaps it is well that it is. There are now but few Grisettes such as Beranger sung of, Mrs. Little Girl in Grey," and the modern substitute does not make so charming a picture. The Grisette proper has gone out with the narrow streets.

She was and is a shop-girl, a worker at any of the thousand trades that Parisians acquire, a saleswoman in a store, a waiter in a cafe, a woman or girl who earns her own living with her hands. As some sort of a dowry is expected with every French girl, and as she was born in poverty with an exceedingly brilliant prospect of always continuing in poverty, marriage is out of the question. Still she wants a home just as much as any woman, and something to live and love in is just as much a necessity to her as to the child of better circumstances. So there grew up a kind of semi-marriage, which came to be recognized, and entailed no special disgrace.

Thirty or 40 years ago all young working women were a grey dress with a white cap, and from the color of the dress came the distinctive title. They affiliated with students or workingmen situated in life as they were, and lived with them openly. There was no effort made to conceal the connection. Indeed among themselves it was considered the same as marriage. The grisettes were, as a rule, faithful to their irregular husbands, and by a code of morals that grew up naturally, a good grisette was honored the same as a good wife in other circles, and a bad one was likewise frowned upon.

They constituted a class by themselves. They all wore the cap and grey dress, and were permitted to wear nothing else, for their means afforded nothing else. If

Recent Literature.

From the house of G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, comes "Uncle Sam's Medal of Honor," which is a description of some of the noble deeds for which the medal has been awarded, described by those who have won it. These have been collected and edited by Gen. Theo F. Rodenbough, and a very interesting and readable volume it makes. And it will prove the more so because of the absolute ignorance of many people that there is such a thing as this medal to be given to those who distinguished themselves by bravery or heroism in danger. Instead of making its possession a great honor, very little is heard of it, and its value is detracted from to a great extent. It is a good idea to give to boys in order to cultivate patriotism and courage.

"Pipes from Prairie Land and Other Places," is the title of a volume of poems, by Minnie Gilmore, brought out by Cassell & Co., New York. They sing of the beauties of prairie land, as the title denotes, and many of them breathe of its freedom, its strong, health-giving winds, that bring vitality in their lines. The lovers of poetry, and especially those who enjoy the broad expanse of the prairie, will enjoy the book.

It is a very good thing and indeed, should be made a part of the education of every child, for the youth of the land to be taught something of the ways of the government of their own country, the methods of the law-makers and executors. An excellent book for this purpose and one that cannot fail to make an acceptable holiday gift is one entitled "Among the Law-Makers," by Edmund Alton, and issued from the house of Chautauqua Scientific Series, New York. It is written in a way that will entertain both young and old. It touches upon every interesting feature of Congressional power and procedure, so that any one reading it can acquire a fair understanding of what is going on among our national representatives. Price, $2.50.

To the lovers of the works of Helen Hunt Jackson, and they are many, Roberts Brothers, Boston, have done a kindly deed by bringing out a little volume of her "Songs and Lyrics" which will enable them to procure what have been floating in a fugitive way through newspapers and magazines. These poems do not need commendation to secure them a welcome. Price, $1.

In the Famous Women series from the same house comes "Susanna Wesley," by Eliza Clarke. The work has been done, the author says, "with the sympathetic admiration natural to one in whose veins runs some of her blood," Mrs. Wesley having been an ideal of her early life. As a consequence it is full of the fascination and enthusiasm of the writer always gives. Price, $1.25 cents.

From Dodd, Mead & Co., New York, comes "Elsie's Kith and Kin," by Martha Finley, who has become so well known by her popular series of Elsie books. The present one is a very prettily told story of the daily life of a young married pair who meet the ups and downs that must come to every body with the courage that strong mutual love must give. It is a pleasant book for the young people.

A magnificent volume issued for the holidays by Estes & Lauriat, Boston, is the illustrated poem by Owen Meredith, entitled, "The Earl's Return." The poem beautiful in itself, is made doubly attractive by its exquisite setting. The drawings were made by W. L. Taylor, and are exceedingly spirited in execution. The frontispiece is in itself a gem, but the same loving workmanship is visible all through the work. The paper used is heavy and fine, part of it with a broad margin of a delicate tint, which sets off the center upon which the illustrations are engraved. It is a charming gift book. Price $6.

"Three Vassar Girls on the Rhine," issued by the same house, is an entertaining account of a holiday trip of three college girls through Germany, by way of the celebrated river, mentioned, written by Lizzie W. Champney and illustrated by "Champ" and others. This cannot fail to entertain the young folks, particularly bright young girls, and there is a great deal of information given in the progress of the story. The book is well illustrated and prettily bound. Price $1.50.

Estes & Lauriat, Boston, send the bound volume of "Chatterbox," which is full of entertainment for the young folks. The fine stories and spirited illustrations will give them a world of pleasure. Price $3.25.

A publication from the same house is the "Globe Dictionary of the English Language," which was edited and compiled by Hyde Clarke from the leading dictionaries now in use. It contains upwards of 100,000 words, and over 10,000 additional meaning for old words. It will be found a very convenient volume for those who want a dictionary upon which they can depend, compressed in a small compass. Price $1.50.

Another pretty Christmas gift for young people is "Young America," published by the Aldine Publishing Co., Boston. It is made up of short stories and adventures, illustrations, and has a very attractive binding. Price 75 cents.

"The Sentimental Calendar" by J. S. of Dale, brought out by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, is a series of twelve funny stories, a part of which have appeared in some of the leading magazines. There is also a preface by the "Major," who shows how the stories came to be called funny, although their intent was serious. The book is very entertaining. Price $2.

The new and enlarged edition of "Pratcatelli's Modern Cook" for 1887, has just been issued by T. B. Peterson & Brothers, Philadelphia, and is reprinted from the twenty-sixth London edition, just issued in London, containing large additions never before published, also 1,480 receipts, 62 illustrations, as well as Francatelli's instructions for the service of wines, denoting the order in which they should be drank at the dinner-table, the whole being in one large royal octavo volume of 600 pages printed on tinted paper and strongly bound. It is one of the most thorough and valuable cook books in the English language, and good cooking is cheaper than a doctor. It is a good thing to present to a married lady, to a wife, to one about being married, to a housekeeper, or to a friend, for there is great knowledge and thrift in it. Price $5 a copy.

Literary Notes.

A new novel by George Ebers, entitled "Die Nilbraut," is announced for immediate publication.

A translation into English of the second part of Dr. Stinde's "Buchholz Family" is about to appear.

One of the Boston booksellers reports the sale of Mrs. Deland's new volume of poems, "The Old Garden," as phenomenal.

Marion Crawford's novel, "Mr. Isaacs," has a place on the list of works of which a copy is sent to every Municipal Library in Paris.

Copies of the first volumes of the "Collections of the Huguenot Society of America" are offered to the public through the firm of Thomas Whittaker.

Mr. F. H. Cushing is reported to be engaged upon a grammar and dictionary of the Zuñi language, with the help of three Pueblo Indians of the Zuñi tribe.

Mr. Kemble has made some characteristic illustrations for Mr. Cable's story, "Caranero," which is to appear in the January and February numbers of the *Century*.

"C. B. F." a Boston lady, has prepared for Cupples, Upham & Co., a volume of "selections from "Buddha," the translation used being that of Beal, edited by Max Müller.

The author of "Margaret Kent" has written a new novel, which is now in the press of Ticknor & Co. It is entitled "Sons and Daughters," and is said to surpass "Margaret Kent."

Charles H. Kerr & Co., Chicago, will issue this month a volume of eight sermons on "Burden-Bearing and Burden-Sharing," four of them by Jenkin Lloyd Jones and four by William C. Gannett.

Michael de Munkacsy is a poet as well as a painter. A volume of his poems has recently been published in Buda-Pesth by the National society for the "Maintenance of the Magyar Language."

The life of Oliver P. Morton, edited by his son, is to be issued next year. Gens. Wallace and Carrington, and Sens. Ingalls, Allison, McMillan and Hoar have engaged to contribute to the work.

The first half of George W. Cable's two part story, "Caranero," a story of the Louisiana Acadians, will appear in the January *Century*, with illustrations by Kemble, who recently visited Louisiana to obtain sketches for the work.

Miss Jean Ingelow has been plunged into deep affliction by the sudden death of her beloved brother, William Frederick Ingelow, with whom she has resided for many years in London. Writing to a friend, she hopes her many correspondents in all of the states will not feel hurt by her apparent neglect in answering letters received from them."

A statistic fiend has calculated that the current edition of a quarter of a million *Century Magazines* would fill six freight cars, piled up would be 55 times as high as the statue of Liberty (not counting the electric light), placed end to end would reach 39 miles, and the separate sheets so placed would reach from New York to a point in the middle of Missouri.

The title of Mr. Bunner's novel, which is to begin with the first number of *Scribner's Magazine*, will be "The Story of a New York House." The scene of the opening chapters is laid in that city in the early part of the century, the life and appearance of the New York of that day forming an effective background for the movement of the story.

THE WABASH "COMBINE."

A Severe But Truthful Arraignment of the Great Railway Wreckers.

The Chicago *Tribune* of yesterday had the following editorial article advising the people robbed in the Wabash deal to appeal to the courts of justice:

The boodle aldermen in New York City who forestalled the railway franchise conspiracy, or "combine," are justly execrated, and the public prosecutor deserves all the commendation he has received for his zeel in trying to convict them; but the headlight from Judge Gresham's recent decision in the Wabash receivership case has disclosed a state of facts incomparably more criminal than anything alleged against those boodlers. That light was not thrown directly upon the merits of the case in its bottom facts, but the iniquity is so great and obvious that one ray of light, however oblique, was bound to disclose a state of things which should engage the attention of the grand jury next summer convened in New York city under the state law, and Mr. Martine should realize that the conviction of one Wabash boodler would do more for the ends of justice than sending to the penitentiary every member of the Broadway "combine," with Jake Sharp, the worst of the gang, thrown in.

The *Tribune* has urged the victims of that gigantic robbery to go into court with a demand for restitution, and would repeat the advice with additional urgency. Every dollar of the $47,550,000 taken from the purchasers of those bonds and stocks should be got back, and there should be no delay or hesitation in bringing suits for recovery. The victims in short humbs should not stand shaking in the cold of the untempered wind, but avail themselves of the legal remedy provided against bunko-steerers and all other kinds of confidence men. But entirely apart from all proceedings for the recovery of money procured by false pretenses, is the criminal prosecution of the rascals. Every crime against persons and property has two phases, the public and the private, and they are no less distinct because the former is based upon the latter. The pickpocket, the sneak-thief, the burglar, and the highwayman have committed offenses against the people at large, and that feature of their crimes is overshadowing. So in this case the hundreds of thousands of innocent purchasers who were inveigled into buying Wabash "first mortgage" bonds at par, the "preferred" stock at 80 cents on a dollar, and the "common" at 45, can command the services of the courts to recover the money out of which they were bunkoed. But the entire community is interested in bringing the criminals to retribution. There is no man so poor as to person so young, that any crime against property does not concern him, and the larger the scale of crime the deeper the public interest.

The common law which this country has inherited from England is founded on homely and even handed justice, without regard to wealth or prestige, and in New York as in every other state, the statutory modifications have conformed to this general character. There has, it is true, come to be a degree of impunity for the Titans of crime. It is safer to steal a railroad than an old coat; to form a "combine" on an international scale than to pick a pocket; but the law itself is not at fault, and sometimes the great fish are unable to flounder out of the net or break its meshes. Encouraged by these wholesome exceptions District Attorney Martine should make it his especial business to bring the Wabash gang to the bar of justice—and if possible behind the bars of the penitentiary.

MIGHTIER THAN THE GUN.

A Big Bully Whipped With a Lead Pencil.

One of the notorious characters of this section is Threetoed Watson. He has acquired the coveted notoriety of being a bad man, and a refusal to drink with him was, until recently, a deadly insult.

Two mining engineers, a day or two ago, were sitting in a saloon, and when Watson ordered everybody up to the bar one of them, a German named Winkler, politely declined. Mr. Watson produced a pondersome pistol and pushing the muzzle into Winkler's face, he roared:

"Yer won't drink with me, yer Dutch tenderfoot? Reckon yer don't know me. I'm a howling blizzard of the perarie, I am, and when I'm turned loose it's dirty work cleaning up the ranch. I'm a gentleman, and you'll drink whisky 'long o' me or make room for the coroner."

Mr. Winkler shut one eye and squinted into the pistol barrel, and quietly remarked:

"Well, if you insist, I'm with you."

Getting up from the table he walked over to the bar and stood beside Watson, who flourished his pistol once more under his nose and then turned it into his holster. Holding a whisky glass in his left hand, Winkler took from his vest pocket a draughtsman's fine hard lead pencil, sharpened to a needle point. Turning to Threetoed Watson, he said:

"Look here, sir! You are a bigger man than I am, and could whip me if you wanted to without any weapons. I don't want to drink, but you pulled a pistol and would have shot me if I hadn't stepped up here. I carry no arms, you see; nothing but a pencil."

Here Winkler poised the pencil, which he grasped firmly with his right thumb and fingers, directly opposite Watson's face as though to call attention to the insignificance of his armory and emphasize his remarks, at the same time looking the bully steadily in the eye.

"Now, I want to tell you," he continued, "that you are an infernal scoundrel and a cowardly bully, and I can lick you with a lead pencil," and just as the words reached for his gun the pencil darted forward like a flash into his left eye, the point passing accurately through the pupil. Three-toed Watson yelled in agony and fell upon the floor, writhing and shrieking. Mr. Winkler put the pencil back into his vest pocket, replaced the untasted whisky upon the bar and went out. Watson may pull through if he has luck, but that eye will be of no more use to him, and his privileges as a bad man are gone.—*Mexican Letter.*

"I Don't Know What Ails Me,"

says many a sufferer. "I have the 'blues' frightfully; I am troubled with headache and dizziness; I have lost my appetite; there is a bad taste in my mouth constantly. What is the matter with me?" Get a bottle of Dr. Pierce's "Golden Medical Discovery," use it faithfully, and you will soon be a new man again. All druggists have it.

A HERO OF THE HUSTINGS.

How a Lad, Who Will be President Before He Knows It, Carried an Election.

The election at Woods River developed at least one hero, a boy 11 years old, whose widowed mother, a school teacher, ran for superintendent of schools for the county and was elected, snowing under her competitor by a majority of 1,200. The boy took active part in the canvass for his mother, and whoever was lukewarm or tired, that lad was in dead earnest.

A free train ran to Shoshone and back again on election day. Without his mother's knowledge the boy went to Shoshone—fifty miles away—gathered a big crowd of citizens, mounted a platform, made a speech, stating who he was, that his father, formerly principal of the Hailey school died a year ago; that his mother was teaching for a living; that she had five children; that she was now running for superintendent of the county schools; that she needed the office, was capable of filling it, and he hoped that they would all go to the polls and vote for her. At sundown 252 votes were counted for the brave boy's mother, against 158 for her opponent.—*Salt Lake Tribune.*

Important to all Who Work

for a living. Write to Hallett & Co., Portland, Maine, and they will send you full information, free, showing you how you can make from $5 to $25 and upwards a day and live at home, wherever you are located. Some have made over $50 in a day. Capital not required; you are started free. All ages; both sexes. All is new. Great income sure from the start. Fortunes await all workers who begin at once.

LA DAME AUX CAMELIAS.

Alexandre Dumas Tells How He Wrote His Brilliant Book.

In the *edition de luxe* of his best works, which Alexandre Dumas fils has been preparing for some years past, has now appeared *La Dame aux Camelias*, with a hitherto unpublished preface. All lovers of the witty, and in some respects profound work, which M. Dumas has done in these comedies, will be pleased to see the following extracts from this new introduction to a play so universally known as *Camille*—as we call it in English. The distinguished author, addressing his publisher, in a preface to the preface, remarks:

You ask me for a preface for a new illustrated edition of *La Dame aux Camelias*. You ask it from precisely the one man in the world who can say neither good nor ill of this book. Janin has told us about Marie Duplessis all that was to be said; he even added a little embroidery here and there. I have repeated, in my turn, either in the preface to the play or in the notes on the Comedians' Edition, everything remaining in my memory about this beautiful girl, who had such marked influence over my literary career, since I owe to her my first success as a novelist and my very first as a dramatist. M. de Contades recently published, *La Femme du Reveillon*, *Le Livre*, a series of studies and a mass of most exact information concerning her. I have nothing more to add now, save how I wrote the book in three weeks on the corner of a table at Saint-German-en-Laye, in a room for which I paid a franc a day at the *White Horse*—the only inn which I had found on the one evening when I missed the last train. Have I already told that? For that matter, is it very interesting? Would it be better to indulge in philosophical reflections on prostitution and on the fatal influence of courtesans? Hardly, would it? Well, here goes for the history of the birth of the book.

I had, then, as we have seen, missed my train, and I had gone to stay at the *White Horse*, on the main street, some thirty-seven or thirty-eight years ago. I was accompanied by a friend, who had been to dine with me at my father's house, at Monte Christo. We each took a room at this inn, principally frequented, in those days, by carters and stage-drivers, who were employed on the neighboring routes.

When we awoke in the morning it was a superb day. Instead of returning at once to Paris, we decided to go to Ravelet's and take horses for a ride in the wood. You never knew Ravelet! I am sorry for you. Ravelet kept a livery stable and riding school on the first *rond point* of the terrace of Saint-Germain. He was celebrated in our generation. He bought all the unruly, vicious, balky, runaway horses from the garrison of Saint-Germain, and people came in bands from Paris expressly to mount them. At thirty cents an hour, all summer long, from seven in the morning until nine in the evening, they were soon cured of the vices which caused their exclusion from cavalry service. They were saddled either with side-saddles or the others; as soon as the gentlemen or ladies were in their seats the animals were driven from the stable by a few good blows from a whip, and away they went. It was very amusing, seasoned with youth and laughter. Not every rider got a fall; and those who did, picked themselves up again! Happy days!

This Ravelet's place was, as you can imagine, a favorite rendezvous. From 1840 to 1860—in which later years, improvements on the terrace caused the removal of his establishment—Ravelet had seen on the backs of his sorry nags most of the pretty girls of the Parisian *demi monde*, including Marie Duplessis, who was very fond of coming to this spot, and enjoyed, to the full extent of her feverish nature, the gallop in the forest.

I remember a rather droll story about a cherry tree, which was the finest ornament of the country and of this stable. One day, I came and asked the hostlers to saddle me a horse. While waiting, I asked Ravelet if he might climb his tree and eat some of the fruit. "You may," he answered, "you will find some one already up there." I then perceived a small ladder leaning against the opposite side of the tree. I ran up it and found a young woman, pretty although a brunette, as my friend said, seated in a crotch between two branches, and tranquilly eating cherries: "With your permission, Madame," I said, "*Comment donc, Monsieur!* With the greatest pleasure!" And there we were, eating cherries, and babbling of everything which came into our heads, on a fine June morning, a youth of twenty and a pretty girl who had met in a cherry tree. Four or five years ago, in order to gratify a curiosity I shop to price a Louis Sixteenth arm-chair, I found the shopkeeper, an amiable elderly lady, with hair turning grey—well, it *was* grey—but with black eyes still alive and with fine teeth still white. I said to myself: "I've seen that face somewhere." She looked at me with attention, in turn, I gazed so steadfastly at her that she felt that I was on the track of a remembrance. So she said: "Yes, in the cherry tree at Saint-Germain."

My friend was so delighted with the beautiful weather that he wished to remain a few days longer at Saint-Germain. He offered to return to Paris and fetch such linen and garments as we should need for this improvised sojourn in the country. Meantime I offered to go and see my father, and prepare rooms for myself and friend which would be more comfortable than those at the *White Horse*. But my friend was afraid of disturbing the author of the *Mousquetaires*; and besides the neighborhood of Revelet, the horse, the cherry trees and the consequences which these various things might bring about had a superior attraction for him. Hardly had he left for Paris, hardly was I alone on the terrace where I had walked so often with Marie Duplessis, when I began to think about her, and then the idea of writing her history, or at any rate a story about her, took possession of me, and so imperiously that I bought three or four quires of foolscap, pens, and ink, and went back into my room at a franc a day, where I began the book, while awaiting my friend's return. When he came back to dinner, he found me hard at work, and with such enthusiasm that I did not wish to leave Saint-Germain before I had written the last word. It was all done in about three weeks. My friend became so interested in my work that he made a clean copy as fast as I wrote, on condition that he might have the original manuscript. I gave it to him, and he took it home in a fiacre at his wife's request to the Indies, before the Suez canal was opened. Somewhere near the Cape of Good Hope, the ship was struck by a sudden tempest, and a great portion of the cargo and baggage was thrown into the waves. The manuscript of *La Dame aux Camelias* was in one of the sacrificed trunks. What a fine ending!

As soon as the novel was finished I took it to Cudot, the publisher, who received as he was in the habit of receiving authors who wrote for him, to whom he said that he was ruined each time he purchased a manuscript for four or five hundred francs. He consented, after innumerable difficulties, to give me a thousand francs for my book, for a two-volume octavo edition of twelve hundred copies, which he sold to the very last copy. He was glad enough later to pay me 1,000 francs for a second edition of 1,500 copies, of which he also sold every one; but when I asked him that he intended to do about a third, he sent me packing. I accepted my dismissal and went to the Rue Vivienne, where your brother definitely adopted my heroine, whom the house of Quantin is about to present once more to the public, but surrounded with beauty and luxury as never before. Thanks for her. Good luck and fortune for you.

ALEXANDRE DUMAS FILS.

"Said Aaron to Moses
Let's cut off our noses."

Aaron must have been a sufferer from catarrh. The desperation which catarrh produces is often sufficient to make people say and do many rash things and many continue suffering just as if no such cure as Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy existed. It cures every case from the simplest to the most complicated, and all the consequences of catarrh. A person once cured by Dr. Sage's Catarrh Remedy is not apt to take cold again, as it leaves the mucous membranes healthy and strong. By druggists.

An Impulsive Husband.

"And do you love me as well as ever, John?" the wife asked of her somewhat testy husband, after they had made up subsequent to what is usually termed, "a little spat."

"Why, of course I do, and better."

"Are you sure, darling?"

"Sure? Of course I am. Hang it, don't I tell you so?"

"Yes, but you are not deceiving me?"

"Certainly not. What do you want to aggravate a man for?"

"I am not aggravating you."

"Yes, you are, and I tell you plainly that I love you madly, and if you ask me that question again I'm blessed if I don't go out and stay out altogether. Love you dearly, and now just shut up or it will be worse for you. Asking me if I love you when I do to distraction! Get out, you idiot! You are nothing but a darned fool, anyway."

Wife subsides, highly delighted.

To Weak Men

Suffering from Nervous Debility, Early Decay, Loss of Vitality, Weakness of Body and Mind, etc., I will send you a valuable treatise containing full particulars for certain restoration to health and manhood free of charge. A reliable home cure. Address Prof. F. C. Fowler, Moodus, Conn.

CHRISTMAS TREES.

An Old German Custom—How They Are Managed in the Fatherland.

The most successful Christmas trees in the way of effect are said to be seen in Germany. One fancies them laden with toys on branches projecting symmetrically out on both sides of the trees, gradating into a pyramidal shape at the top, crowned with a star and Santa Claus. At least, this is the way the story books always pictures them, and yet the fact is that many of the most beautiful trees one sees in Germany have no toys at all upon them, and rely purely for their charms upon other ornaments. Not only is the absence of toys remarked, but also that of the usual small ornaments in the way of transparencies, designs in gilt and silver paper, colored balls, etc., which with us have somewhat succeeded the heavy toys, especially in the decoration of Sunday school trees.

To those who have neither the means nor the opportunity to possess the hundred varieties required to produce an effect by this last style of ornament, suggestions that come from a number of beautiful Christmas trees seen in Germany, may not come amiss.

The effect of a Christmas tree, as displayed in a German salon, does not depend alone on the tree. The whole room is considered as a back ground, and nothing left undone that can add to the enchantment of the beauty of the tree. Sometimes the whole room, at least that part of it in which the tree stands, is draped in such colors as shall throw out the tree to the best advantage.

We remember one little salon whose windows ranged along one side of the room. The three windows were draped with crimson red curtains. The wall paper was a rich gold in color, softened by figures laid in in a darker tint. Against the background of yellow and crimson stood the tree. This reached to the high ceiling. There were but three styles of ornaments upon it. Soft, white cotton wool pulled out to produce the effect of snow. This was laid upon the limbs in the most dexterous fashion, producing a perfect illusion of snow. Powdered glass or diamond dust covered the surface. The tree was lit from top to bottom with colored candles. Simple as it reads, the effect was magical. Another tree had a background of white muslin. A frieze, so to speak, of white sheets. This continued around the room. Along its upper edge a wreath of greens was looped, garland-wise. Heading a green baize dado, dividing it from the freize, was a row of Christmas cards, the gatherings of years, belonging to the different members of the family. The tree was alive with small red flowers and yellow candles. On inspection, the effect of holly was found to have been produced by kernels of popped corn. These originally white, had been dyed a bright red, each flower or kernel held by a light wire stem. These kernels were grouped in small and large bunches, or peeped out singly from under the foliage. The white background was needed to bring out the red flowers, the green of the tree and the effect of the yellow candles.

Another tree, although not so pretty in effect, yet suggestive in ideas, had a unique background of crimson chintz. The frieze laid upon this color was formed of a garland of flowers made out of twisted white muslin. The effect was like sculpture, and the illusion almost perfect. This particular Christmas festivity of which we speak was combined with a musical entertainment, and the design in the frieze was made to express this idea. At each point where the garland was caught up musical instruments were grouped, made also out of the white muslin.

The tree held at the top a large frosted white star. The branches and foliage are covered with sugar or some substance which produced the effect of a light snow. The principal ornament was white paper snowballs, which nodded in graceful profusion on all sides. The lighting was effected by pure white candles.

THE LORD OF MISRULE.

Christmas Festivities in the Time of Queen Elizabeth's Youth.

It was Christmas Eve. The great hall of Hatfield House gleamed with the light of many candles that flashed upon the scene and armor and polished floor. Holly and mistletoe, rosemary and bay, and all the decorations of an old-time English Christmas were tastefully arranged. A burst of laughter rang through the hall, as through the ample door-way, and down the broad stairs, trooped the motley train of the Lord of Misrule to open the Christmas revels. A fierce and ferocious looking fellow was he, with his great green mustache and his ragged suit, he lived up to a gorgeous parti-colored jerkin and half-hose, trunks, ruff, slouch boots of Cordova leather, and high befeathered steeple hat. His long staff, topped with a fool's head, cap and bells, rang loudly on the floor, as, preceded by his diminutive but pompous page, he led his band around and around the great hall, lustily singing the chorus:

"Like prince and king he leads the ring;
Right merrily we go. Sing hey-trix, trim-go-trix,
Under the mistletoe!"

A menagerie let loose or the most dyspeptic of after-dinner dreams could not be more bewildering than was this motley train of the Misrule. Giants and dwarfs, dragons and griffins, hobby horses and goblins, Robin Hood and the Grand Turks, bears and boars and fantastic animals that women, in every imaginable costume and device—around and around the hall they went, still ringing out the chorus:

"Sing hey-trix, trim-go-trix,
Under the mistletoe!"

Then, standing in the center of his court, the Lord of Misrule bade his herald declare that from Christmas eve to Twelfth Night he was Lord Supreme; that, with his magic art, he transformed all there into children, and charged them, on their fealty, to act only as such. "I bid them be just wise enough to make fools of themselves, and decree that none shall sit apart in pride and eke in self-sufficiency to laugh at others," and then the fun commenced.—*St. Nicholas.*

—Captain Mitchell, of the bark Antoine Sala, New York and Havana trade, came home in May, entirely helpless with rheumatism. He went to the mountains, but received no benefit, at his wife's request began to take Hood's Sarsaparilla. He immediately began to improve; in two months his rheumatism was all gone, and he sailed in command of his vessel a well man. Hood's Sarsaparilla will help you. Sold by all druggists.

TELLING THE TRUTH.

What a Girl Said to Jeff Davis on the Cars.

One morning (said a Southern railroad conductor recently) my train, which was the first one to go through to New Orleans, ran considerably past Beauvoir Station, and the engineer had to reverse and go back to pick up a couple of passengers. One of them was Mr. Davis. He boarded the last car and sat down in a seat behind a young couple who got on just above Mississippi City. They had evidently just been married, and were Yankee to the backbone—hailed from Philadelphia, as I learned afterward. She was very pretty, but evidently disgusted with the South. Presently I sat down just behind Mr. Davis, in time to hear the young lady say: "What place was that where we stopped just now?"

"Beauvoir, I believe," answered the young fellow without looking up from his newspaper.

"Why, that's where Jeff Davis lives," she exclaimed, then in an under tone, "The old rebel; he ought to have been hung!"

"And pray, Miss," said a stately voice at her elbow, "who do you, a young, innocent girl, pronounce such a harsh condemnation on him?"

"Because," she replied, not recognizing the speaker, "because he deserved it. He tried to ruin our country, and caused thousands of brave men to die. He made widows and orphans—he made me an orphan," and tears welled into her eyes.

"Did Jeff Davis do all that?" asked the man, huskily.

The girl looked curiously over her shoulder and said: "I believe he was responsible for it."

HORSFORD'S ACID PHOSPHATE,
Hundreds of Bottles Prescribed.

Dr. C. R. DAKE, Belleville, Ill., says: "I have prescribed hundreds of bottles of it. It is of great value in *all forms of nervous diseases* which are accompanied by loss of power."

Christmas Thoughts.

I will honor Christmas in my heart and try and keep it all the year.

Christmas is the only holiday in the year that brings the whole human family into common communion.

It is good to be children sometime, and never better than at Christmas, when its mighty founder was a child himself.

I have always thought of Christmas time as a good time; kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time.

The only time in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely.—*Charles Dickens.*

For Coughs and Throat Disorders use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES. "Have never changed my mind respecting them, except to think better of that which I began thinking well of."—*Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.* Sold only in boxes.

OUR WEEKLY SALAD.

A correspondent of the English journal *Life* says that the very latest idea in the way of improving the human figure is that of corsets for the ankles. They are not really intended, the fair writer says, to make thick ankles thin, but the real object is to give support in walking, so that the English woman's gait may be made more graceful. They consist of corset boots which have whalebone inserted very neatly, and in such a way that their presence is felt but not seen.

Down in Boston, it is said, the beaux are so scarce in proportion to the belles, that if a pretty woman is seen in a public place entertaining two or three gentlemen, society at once concludes that there is something wrong about her. Especially is this true if the place happens to be in a box at the theater. Young men are not so scarce as that in Toledo, but no lady, be she as fair as a Peri from Paradise, would have a chance to be judged harshly by any such incident—judging from the way in which feminine society at the Opera-house entertainments seems to be avoided by the masculine fraternity.

By the way, speaking of the Opera-house, now that the ladies have probably been scolded into a consideration for the rights of others to the extent of removing their bonnets, no matter if they are creatures of beauty, cannot a reform be instituted in the matter of gentlemen going out between the acts for fresh air or—? The tramping up and down the aisle is exceedingly disagreeable, and as the return to the seats is often made after the curtain rises upon the stage, those who have remained in their places have a right to complain?

It is curious how people tire of anything, no matter how superior it may be of its kind, after all novelty has worn away. American folk especially seem always to be reaching out after something new, some experience they have never passed through, some sensation they have never felt. Perhaps it is a part and parcel of the character which is necessary to develop a new country. The very changes which are going on around create a desire for others, and this finally becomes developed into a characteristic. The thought was brought to the Salad Server by reading that Patti, the inimitable singer, in Chicago the other evening was greeted without enthusiasm by a small audience. It is true that it was a concert, and as a rule, people are more aroused by an opera, and yet so divine a singer should never lack for hearers.

Said a Boston preacher, Dr. Phillips Brooks, in a sermon the other day: "The only real safety and happiness of life comes from looking down bravely into its depths when they are opened to us and fairly taking into account the profoundest meanings of existence." The reverend gentleman is right, but it is not wise to be always craving to force them open in order to "peek in" and frighten themselves miserable over what we imagine we see there. Courage and fortitude in the face of real evils is one thing; the constant expectation of their coming, and the bemoaning of possible suffering is another. Look bravely into the depths, *when they are opened*, but don't go around planning a way to force them to show up their miseries.

The Philadelphia *Call* talks about the frequent lack of politeness upon the part of women to men gentlemen give up their seats in the street car, and gives the remark of one man in regard to the matter, adding that it contains a suggestion which women might study with profit. Here it is: "It strikes me that some men refuse to give up their seats to women because they are frequent witnesses to the thoughtlessness of the sex. I would seem that common politeness would suggest to a woman that when a man gives her his seat she should return it to him when she gets out if he is still standing. On the contrary I have never seen it done—no, not once! The woman gets out and the man who has sacrificed his comfort to his politeness sees a man drop into the same seat while he remains clinging to the strap."

Mrs. Annie Jeness Miller has been trying to introduce a reform in the dress of women, and Washington society ladies are said to be taking kindly to it. This is her idea. Freedom from weight, pressure and deformity, all of which is gained by ridding oneself of bandy, steels, bones, strings, busties and petticoats, and clothing the woman as she is shaped, the outer covering or ornamentation only taking the form of drapery. She says: "I counsel women to be beautiful, and advise them to wear such materials, dainty laces, and exquisite gems on proper occasions if they can afford it, and do not have to destroy a bonnet and brain to obtain it, as so many women do, but I implore them, for the love of heaven, not to assume that Almighty wisdom was at fault in not creating woman with a hump like a camel might envy, and a waist slender as the neck of a swan. I beg them not to destroy the beauty and grace of true proportions, throwing the shoulders up, and the hips out, until the abdomen becomes vulgarly prominent, and the carriage like the hitch of a hen when she attempts to run. I counsel the study of correct models, and the rest is assured."

Gen. Badeau makes some very pleasant reading in the Sunday number of the New York *Tribune*, and lends a new vision to some of the characteristics of Gen. Grant. He contributes a meaning paragraph when alluding to the meeting of Grant and Washburne in Chattanooga. He says: "I was with Grant in Rome, but there is no disguising the fact that he did not appreciate pictures nor statuary," and "He got tired of the Sistine Chapel, and poked fun at me when I wanted to look once more at the 'Last Judgment of Michael Angelo.' "In the same way he was utterly deaf to music and could not keep step enough to make fools of themselves, and decree that none shall sit apart in pride and eke in self-sufficiency to laugh at others," and then the fun commenced.—*St. Nicholas.*

For Coughs and Throat Disorders use BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES.

"Have never changed my mind respecting them, except to think better of that which I began thinking well of."—*Rev. Henry Ward Beecher.* Sold only in boxes.

HE SNICKERED.

The Good Little Boy and the Young Parson.

Last Sunday a young clergyman from a young congregation preached by exchange, to a congregation which is one of the serene, old-fashioned, undisturbed sort, where everything theological passes placidly from one text to another, and where the rising generation's undoubted human nature is allowed for in a quiet sensible way. The visiting clergyman remained to the Sunday school, and after the exercises were about half finished he rose to make a little speech.

"I know that you are an enterprising Sunday school," he said, "because I see so many new books. I know that you are a happy Sunday school, because I see so many smiling faces around me. And I know that you are a generous Sunday school, because that little boy over there by the long pew door offered me a peanut as I came in." The attention of the assembly was instantly directed to the little boy, who began to snicker uncontrollably to himself.

"Well, what's the matter, my little man?" asked the clergyman. "You're not sorry you offered me the peanut, are you?"

"Did you th-think that was a peanut I gave you?" asked the little boy, still snickering violently.

"Why, yes; wasn't it?"

"No—o—o! 'twas only a shell!"—*Tavernier in Boston Post.*

Four Beautiful Cards.

New designs never before published. Will please any person. Also 8 color Illuminated Illustrated Book. Sent free to every reader of the Toledo BLADE. Address R. G. Valentine, 57 Murray street, New York City.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

THE LAST LETTER.

BY MAE DE LANCIE.

The shades of night have fallen
Like a veil around the camp,
And our gallant boys lie sleeping
By the light of heaven's great lamp.
In the shadow of the beech trees,
Looking ghastly in the gloom,
Stalks the picket, dreaming fondly
Of his lovely bride at home.

Perhaps he ne'er shall meet her more,
Never hear her voice again,
For the morning sun may find him
Numbered with the noble slain.
On the morrow we shall meet the foe,
Shall meet them in our might,
May our army be victorious,
And may God protect the right.

I have had a bright, bright dream,
Far too happy to be true,
Yet it cheered my weary spirit,
For I dreamed of home, and you.
In my dream I saw our cottage
Nestled 'neath the poplar trees,
And the chiming of the church bells
Was borne upon the breeze.

In the doorway you were sitting,
'Neath the honeysuckle's shade,
On your brow a wreath of glory
By the golden sunbeams made.
You looked so bright and happy
To think that I had come,
While our darling blue-eyed Nellie
Whispered sweetly, "Welcome home."

When the little golden head
Was pillowed on my breast,
She said softly, "Papa, angels
Soon will take you home to rest.
And they said they'd come for Nellie,
Take me up to heaven so bright,
Give to me a crown of glory,
And a robe of dazzling white."

The sweet wee mouth grew tremulous,
"How lonely ma will be,
If the angels leave her here alone,
And take but you and me."
Then the fair face grew brighter,
And she smiled as angels do,
As she whispered with a kiss—
"Mamma, God will stay with you."

I woke and found it but a dream,
The brightness all was gone;
And across the eastern hill-tops
Came the footsteps of the morn.
If my dream should prove reality,
If in battle I should fall,
Remember that I put my trust
In Him who ruleth all.

I'll wait for you and Nellie
Upon the other side,
'Till the boatman, Death, comes for you,
To row you o'er the tide.
Hark! I hear the bugle sounding,
'Tis the signal for the strife!
If I fall we'll meet in heaven,
Fare you well, farewell, my wife.

Ed. S. Kinney, Co. B, 47th Ind. Vet. Vol., Nelson, Neb., writes: I want to find a younger soldier than myself who served four years and sixty days, from September, '61, who never missed a day's duty, march or meal, when the meal could be had. My age is 40.

J. F. Clarke, Atlanta, Ill., late corporal Co. K, 101st Pa. Vols., writes: If worthy, stick this somewhere in the column. I, like Comrade Preston, of the 55th N. Y. V. L., have been a member of Plymouth survivors. So he will see by this that he is not the only one, as I had the pleasure of being one of "McElroy's pilgrims." If any more see this, I would like to hear from them, but I do not think there are many more of us left to tell the tale of Andersonville and Florence prison life.

Army of the Frontier.

Editor Camp Fire:—I read a communication from a comrade of the 9th Illinois, in regard to the army of the frontier, and as I was a soldier in that army and took part in the raid on Van Buren, I will try and write about the part our brigade took in that raid. On the morning of the 27th of December, 1862, the third brigade under Weir, started bright and early for Van Buren. Herrons's troops moved at the same time. The army of the frontier on that raid was commanded by Curtis, of Iowa. Our road led through a canon of the Boston mountains, and we had to wade one stream 35 times. It would run awhile on one side of the valley, then cross the road and run on the other side, and every time it crossed the road, we had to wade. It

Question Bureau.

1. The true name and postoffice address must be given in all cases, but, when specially requested, they will not be published.

2. No attention will be paid to mathematical problems, questions of grammatical construction, or inquiries regarding the reliability of individuals or business firms.

3. Communications for this department must be written on a separate sheet, contain not more than five questions, Do not ask a question and then proceed to argue it. If you can answer it and it is considered of general interest, it will be answered. If it is unable to answer an answer in the "next issue." The Question Bureau is always full, and we are usually three or three weeks behind.

4. This department is not intended to settle party disputes, or decide bets. It objects to questions not calculated to be of general interest, and no one has the right to DEMAND a reply. Do not request an answer by mail.

5. No question will receive the slightest attention unless the first and third rules above are complied with.

Congregationalists, Etc.

S. B. R., Lincoln, Neb.:

1. Please give the history of the Congregational church. 2. Where did the expression, "holy book or creed" originate? 3. Give a sketch of the European congress of the powers.

1. To trace the history of Congregationalism, it will be necessary to go back over 300 years, and examine the state of things in the established church of England during the reign of both's accession to the throne made her the supreme head of the church. The Puritan party in that church grew up out of an unwillingness to conform to the ceremonies of the church of England, such as the wearing of the surplice, the use of the sign of the cross, and kneeling at the communion. Persecution followed. Some of the Puritans discarded the church entirely, and became known as Separatists, while others, who remained, against its errors, and were simply nonconformists. Of the former class was Robert Brown, who in 1580 propounded a theory of church government, which was called Brownism, and which was afterward advocated by John Robinson, who is generally esteemed the father of modern Congregationalism. Those who adopted Brown's views were at first called Brownists, but the name by which the society were united with arrests, fines, imprisonments, and in some instances with death, until at last their condition became intolerable. They accordingly resolved to escape, and fled in a body to Holland. Many of them afterward returned to return to England, but he was unable to accomplish anything there, in consequence of the general outcome of persecution which overwhelmed him, not only the Separatists and Nonconformists, but even from the pulpits and from the judicial bench.

In 1602 a second society called Independents or Congregationalists was formed in the north of England, of which the leading spirit was Robert Browne. They too suffered from all manner of persecution, and projected a plan of escape to Holland; but their purpose was frustrated by the treachery of the captain of the vessel who betrayed them to the authorities, and they were imprisoned for a time. In the spring of 1608 Robinson, accompanied by a number of his followers, again attempted to set sail from Lincolnshire. Only a portion of the fugitives succeeded in getting on board before the remainder were surprised by a troop of horse, arrested, and again conveyed to prison. But they were eventually released and succeeded in joining their friends in Holland. In Amsterdam a society still existed which traced its origin to Robert Browne, and the two bodies united with it, and at first all went harmoniously. But dissensions soon broke out among them, and Robinson's friends removed to Leyden. Here they remained ten years, during which time the University of Leyden became famous for its Congregationalists were exempted from persecution, and Robinson published several works, in which he set forth and defended the chief points constituting his system.

In the year 1617 that Robinson conceived the idea of removing to America. They first selected Virginia as the spot to which their course should be directed. In 1620 the preparations for the voyage were completed, and the Mayflower sailed in 1620, without ever accomplishing his intended voyage, though many of his associates had sailed before that time. Emigrants continued to arrive in America, and the colony flourished with the Congregationalists in their opinions, and thus churches continued to be gradually organized around the original settlers of Plymouth. In 1633 Mr. Cotton arrived from England by whose influence a more perfect system of government was developed and generally adopted, which then received the name and embodied the principles of Congregationalism. In this the following year the first church in Boston was developed. In 1633 the Congregationalists resolved to become independent of the mother country in regard to the supply of ministers of their growing churches, and accordingly in that year Rev. Mr. Harvard settled in Cambridge, which is the oldest literary institution in the United States.

In 1648 a synod was held, in which a system of church government was drawn up, which became generally known as the Cambridge platform. It was in fact a confession or creed which had been previously adopted by the English Congregationalists. When this platform was adopted and by a synod assembled at Boston, and thus became the authoritative doctrinal declaration of the New England Congregationalists. It is held by these Congregationalists that the Congregational church is this or any country in the sense in which the word "church" is applied to other sects; but there is a collection of Congregational churches in fellowship with each other who constitute the denomination.

2. From "Faerie Queene," by Edmund Spenser. 3. There is no particular description to be given. It is an assembly of the sovereigns or plenipotentiaries of several states to decide questions and concert measures of common interest.

Bog Ore.

Sub., Farley, Iowa:

Will you give me the analysis of bog ore, and its commercial value?

It is a mineral of very variable composition, but regarded as consisting essentially of peroxide of iron and water; the peroxide of iron often amounts to almost 60 per cent., and water to about 20. Phosphoric acid is usually present in quantities varying from 2 to 11 per cent. Silicic acid, alumina, oxide of manganese and other oxides which seem accidentally present, make up the rest. The pig metal obtained from bog ore, called cold short, is so brittle that it breaks to pieces by falling upon the hard ground; but the bar iron obtained with wood fire is also give to the melted cast iron great fluidity, which causes it to be in great demand for the manufacture of fine castings, the metal flowing into the minutest cavities of the mould, and reproducing the most delicate impressions.

The iron made from the bog ores of Snowhill, on the eastern shore of Maryland, notwithstanding its great brittleness, brings a high price in Europe, and is used in the manufacture of Troy, to be mixed with other qualities of metal for producing the best material for their excellent castings. Bog ores are very easily converted into iron, and when they can be procured to advantage in close proximity to coal produce a very beneficial effect, both in the running of the furnace and in the quality of the iron. For these reasons, as also for the reason that valuable bog ore deposits are found, it is an object to have them at hand, though they seldom yield more than 30 to 35 per cent. of cast iron.

Recipes for Curing Meat.

J. L. S., Nodean, Mich.:

Please give recipes for curing hams, shoulders, etc.

The recipe for curing hams has been extensively circulated: For every sixteen pounds of meat take one pint of pure salt and one ounce of saltpetre. Pack the hams in a tight cask, shanks downward, and sprinkle the salt between them. Dissolve the saltpetre in water and pour it over them. In the course of 24 hours add sufficient water to cover the meat. Let the meat remain in the brine for six weeks and then smoke. In hanging them in the smokehouse let the shanks be downward. By so doing the juices will remain in the meat and give a finer flavor. An English recipe for making brine is as follows: Four pounds of salt, one pound of sugar, two ounces of saltpetre, and two gallons of water. This will cure as much meat as can be covered by the pickle. It is difficult to tell how much salt and other antiseptics to employ, or how long to employ them without knowing how the meat is to be smoked.

In the South a most excellent bacon is made for home use, the meat is never placed in brine, but is rubbed and kept covered with dry sugar and salt, till the meat is well-flavored, and is then transferred to the smokehouse, where it is subjected to the action of dry air and smoke for several weeks. The meat loses much in weight, but has fine keeping qualities, although it contains but a small amount of salt. To the white settlers of the West, who go far from market, it is the common practice to cure the meat in common salt brine, letting it remain in it till it is wanted for sale, and then to subject it to a dense smoke for a week or two, by which it brown color and a light flavor of smoke. Hams, shoulders, and side bacon cured in this way, are greatly inferior to those to which the salt and other antiseptics are applied in a dry form and which remain in a dry atmosphere slightly charged with smoke for several weeks.

Gen. Shields.

Sub., Fall River, Kan.:

Please give sketch of the life of Gen. Shields.

He was born in Dungannon, Ireland, in 1810, and emigrated to America in 1826. In 1832 he went to Illinois, and commenced the practice of law. He was successively elected to seats in the legislature; state auditor in 1839; judge of the supreme court in 1843, and in 1845 commissioner of the general land office. He had served in the Mexican war, and was soon appointed by Pres. Polk a brigadier general in 1847, and for his distinguished services in the battle of Cerro Gordo, in which he was dangerously wounded, was made brevet major general. He was also seriously wounded in the battle of Chapultepec.

In 1848 he was appointed governor of Oregon territory, which office he resigned; United States senator from Illinois in 1849-55; subsequently took up his residence in the territory of Minnesota, and in 1859-60 was United States senator from that state. At the end of his term he went to California. Made brigadier general of volunteers August 19, 1861, and on the death of Gen. Lander in March, 1862, assigned to command. He gained the battle of Winchester, March 23, 1862, in the movements preparatory to which he was severely wounded. He resigned in consequence, removed to Missouri and settled on a farm in Carroll county. Was appointed adjutant general of the state in 1877; was defeated in 1878 as a candidate for doorkeeper of the House of Representatives. Congress subsequently recognized his services by increasing his pension to $100 a month. He died in 1879.

J. G. Whittier.

Reader, Mooresville, Ind.:

I wish you would give me a biography of J. G. Whittier, with a list of his works.

He was born in Haverhill, Mass., December 17, 1807; worked on a farm till 18, writing occasional verses for the Haverhill Gazette, and turning his hand at shoemaking. After two years' study at the town academy, he became in 1829 the editor of the American Manufacturer, published in Boston, a newspaper in the tariff interest. In 1830 he succeeded to Brainerd' snaper at Hartford, and wrote the prefatory memoir of that paper for his "Remains," published in 1832; edited the Gazette at Haverhill, 1832-36. In 1831 appeared his "Legends of New England," its sequel "The Supernaturalism of New England," in 1847; "Moll Pitcher," "Mogg Megone," and "The Bridal of Pennacook."

In 1823 he published an essay entitled "Justice and Expediency or Slavery Considered with a View to its Abolition." After a few years spent at home in farming and representing his town in the state legislature (1835-36), he engaged in the proceedings of the Anti-slavery society; was elected its secretary, and, in defense of its principles, edited the Pennsylvania Freeman, in Philadelphia, 1838-40. "The Voices of Freedom" (1841) afford the best specimen of his anti-slavery offusions. In 1840 he took up his residence at Amesbury, and was a regular contributor to the National Era, at Washington. Several complete collections of his works have been published, and it is not considered necessary to give a list of his productions.

Gold Leaf.

F. F. G., Valparaiso, Ind.:

1. What is the best gum for fitting gold leaf on books, and the stuff used by book binders for making it adhere to the work?

The gold applied to the edges of books, etc., is in the same state as for various ornamental purposes, namely, in extremely thin leaf. Before the edges of cover of the book is quite finished, the volume is struck forcibly against the back, so as to make the fore-edge flat instead of concave. It is then placed in a press, with the whole exposed edge uppermost. The edge is scraped smooth with a piece of steel, and covered with a mixture of red chalk and water. The gold is blown from small books and spread on a leather cushion, where it is cut to the proper size by a smooth-edged knife. A camel's-hair pencil is dipped into white of egg mixed with water, and carefully dry edge of the book is moistened; the gold is then taken up on a tip brush, and applied to the moistened edge, to which it instantly adheres. When all the three edges have been gilt in this way, and allowed to remain a very few minutes, take a burnisher formed of a very smooth piece of hard stone (usually blood-stone), and rub the gold very forcibly, which gives the gold a high degree of polish.

The Dutch.

G. S., Lockport, N. Y.:

1. Is Dutch a dialect or language? 2. How did the Dutch come in possession of New York, and why did they call the English upon them? 3. Why was William of Nassau called the Silent?

1. Language. 2. On September 9, 1609, Henry Hudson, in the employ of the Dutch East India company, discovered the bay of New York, and three days later entered the river which bears his name. In 1623 the country discovered by Hudson was claimed by Holland, and named New Netherland. In 1614 the states general granted special privileges to any company which should undertake the trade with the country. In this year the first Dutch settlements were made on Manhattan Island, and the name New Netherland was applied to the unoccupied regions of America between Virginia and Canada. In 1621 the Dutch West India company was incorporated, and in the following year, by virtue of the powers granted, the first settlement of New Netherland. The Dutch settlements, spreading to the east and west, came in collision with the English upon the Connecticut, and the border contests with the English continued long as they remained in possession of the country. The English claimed New Netherland as part of Virginia, a claim founded upon the prior discovery of Cabot; 3. From the skill with which he concealed his unmerciful designs. When finally conclusively revealed to him his plot to exterminate the Protestants.

Syrup.

P. R., Wild Rice, Dak.:

Is there any method by which syrup can be made from sugar cane juice, so that on standing it will not form a deposit of settings?

When inferior sugar is employed, clarification is always necessary. This is best done by skimming the cane juice as it runs from the fruit juice cold, and then heating up a little of the cold syrup with some white of egg, and one or two ounces of cold water, until the mixture froths well; this must be added to the syrup in the kettle, and the whole whisked up to a good froth; heat should now be applied, and the scum which forms removed from time to time with a clean skimmer. As soon as the syrup has reached the point at which it must be removed from the fire, and allowed to stand until it has cooled a little, when it should be again skimmed, if necessary, and then passed through a cloth flannel. When vitriol, lime, infusions or solutions enter into the composition of syrups, they should be rendered perfectly transparent, by filtration, or clarification, before being added to the sugar.

Miscellaneous.

G. B. Hunterdown, Ind.: Write to American Protective Tariff League, No. 23 West 23d street, New York city.

J. C., Toledo, O.:

F. H. Hurd feels very sore, don't he?

Any man would feel sore after the beating he got.

Sub., Stinesville, Mont.:

Was Stonewall Jackson in any way related to Gen. Andrew Jackson?

No.

P. J., Toledo, O.: The United States census of 1880 gave Chicago 503,185 population, and Washington 147,293. Chicago has now about 700,000 inhabitants.

Reader, Elgin, Ill.:

If a lady is receiving New Year's calls, are they always supposed to have refreshments?

That is a matter of taste.

W. N., Flint Ridge, Kan.:

If a soldier has lost his discharge, how will he proceed to get another one?

Write to the adjutant general, U. S. A., Washington, D. C.

Reader, Plainfield, O.:

Can you inform me how to find the address of relatives in England?

Write to the American consul at the place where they are supposed to be, or advertise in a paper published there.

Reader, Antwerp, O.:

Has any citizen a lawful right if employed by company or corporation, to act as detective and receive pay, without being duly authorized or appointed by such company?

I think not.

A. F. H., Frankfort, Ill.:

Is there any difference between the office held by Gen. Phil. Sheridan and that which was held by Gen. Winfield Scott?

Sheridan is a major general, and lieutenant general by brevet. Sheridan is a full-fledged lieutenant general.

D. H. M., Abingdon, Ia.:

1. Is church property taxed in any of the states or territories of the United States? 2. Please give a short history of the life of each President from Washington to Cleveland; also the wealth of each.

1. No. 2. Please excuse us.

J. P. T., Sherman, W. T.:

1. Is there any limit when there is the same number of votes cast for two or more candidates in county or state election?

Another election must be held, the old incumbent holding over until the matter is decided. This is the usual course.

Sub., Golden Corners, O.:

1. How many colored citizens (excepting Fred. Douglass) shown any ability for learning or politics? 2. Will some one give a description of Knox county, Nebraska, especially the eastern part of it?

1. Yes; and a number of colored men in the South freed by the war are now millionaires.

Sub., Holland, O.:

1. My parents being dead, I wish to find out the name of my grandfather; how should I proceed? 2. How many states and territories have government land?

1. Advertise in the papers where he is supposed to live. 2. In this BLADE. 2. Nineteen.

Sub., Living Spring, Iowa:

1. On the 25th of November 25, you gave the dimensions of the Great Eastern, also the number of tons burden. Please tell the depth of water she will draw when loaded to full capacity.

Thirty feet, laden, and fifteen feet six inches, unladen.

Sub., Jewell, Neb.:

1. Who was elected governor of Indiana in 1870, and why was he called "Blue Jeans?" 2. Who were the five Republican members of Congress?

1. James D. Williams; he was called "Blue Jeans" because of the style of his clothing. 2. Do not understand what five members you mean.

W. F. B., Arcata, Cal.:

Please publish cost of book numbers of the BLADE, numbers Mar. 18, Feb. 18, Aug. 12 and 19; also of complete publications of 1884 and 1885.

We cannot supply back numbers except of one or two weeks previous to the time of applying.

L. S., Plum Creek, Neb.:

Give a short sketch of the life of Homer.

All traditions agree that Homer was an Asiatic Greek, and the greatest amount of legendary evidence points to Smyrna as the city of his birth; beyond this there is little but conjecture regarding the hero. Herodotus gives the date of his birth as about 850 B. C.

Sub., Harford, N. Y.:

1. What is the history of the inventor of the famous Strasbourg clock? 2. Is Canon Farrar still alive? 3. Have all the principal colleges adopted the plan of elective studies?

1. His name was Isaac Habrecht, and that is about all we can learn regarding his history. 2. Yes. 3. Not all, but a majority, we believe.

M. L. S., Staunton, O.:

1. Please tell how long since Jefferson was President of the United States. 2. Give a description of how the President's house was furnished at that time. 3. Was there a piano in the President's house?

1. He was inaugurated March 4, 1801. 2. We have no description at hand. 3. No.

J. B., (No postoffice):

1. Where are the different state prisons situated in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa and Nebraska? 2. How would I proceed to get a position as guard in any of them?

Kansas, Leavenworth; Missouri, Jefferson City; Iowa, Fort Madison; Nebraska, Lincoln. 2. By personal application, or through the influence of friends.

B. C. L., Detroit, Ill.:

1. How many Republicans and how many Democrats were there in both branches of Congress when the salary grab bill was passed? 2. How many members of each party accepted and retained the back salary?

1. In the Senate there were 57 Republicans and 17 Democrats. In the House, 138 Republicans and 63 Democrats. 2. Do not know.

H. P. S., Rutland, O.:

Please give the address and a short description as to size, price, etc., of "Book Chat," mentioned recently in your literary column.

The address is Brentano Bros., No. 5 Union Square, New York city. It is a monthly; price, $1 per year or 10 cents single copy. The number at hand has 20 pages, exclusive of cover. There is some miscellany, but the principal part is devoted to hints on reading, notices of new books, etc.

Reader, Derby, Ind.:

1. Please inform me where I can obtain the book entitled "Isabel and Olie." 2. Would like to know in what era occurred the seven sleepers.

1. Try Brown, Fager & Hull, Toledo, O. 2. The concealment is supposed to have taken place in 250 or 251, and the reanimation in 447. The same legend reappears, with variations, at later periods of Christian history.

C. A. B., Palmyra, Ill.:

1. Is Bob ingersoll a married man? 2. Please tell something of his family. 3. Can you give a good recipe for frost-bitten hands?

1. Yes. 2. He has two or three daughters, we think. His home life is said to be an exceptionally beautiful one. 3. Inclose 25 cents to Domestic Chilblain Cure Co., 218 Summit st., Toledo, O., and you will be sent a certain cure.

F. A., La Belle, Mo.:

1. From what did "Perry Lane," in England, derive its name? 2. When were paper collars first made? 3. Please give verbatim the words of Josephine to Napoleon regarding the rising and setting of the stars.

1. Think it is from a drink called perry, made from pears, containing from 5 to 9 per cent. of alcohol. 2. About 25 or 30 years ago. 3. Cannot find them.

H. W. B., Hartford, N. Y.:

1. Was George Peabody a bachelor? When did he bequeath the legacy to Yale College, and why? 2. Has the law in regard to taxing mortgages in New York been repealed?

1. Think he was. In 1856. He had more money than he wanted, and this gift ($150,000) was only a small portion of the immense sums he presented to different institutions in the United states. 2. Do not know.

F. W. G., North Rochester, Mass.:

1. Who is governor general of Canada? 2. Does British Columbia and other countries of British America have governor generals, or how are they governed?

1. The title is Honorable Henry Charles Keith Petty Fitzmaurice, Marquis of Landsdowne, G. C. M. G. (If we have omitted any portion of his name or titles we crave his pardon.) 2. They are military districts, with lieutenant governors.

W. B., Bloomville, O.:

1. How do writers of stories get their work before the public, and in what manner do they receive compensation for the same? 2. About what price is paid for a short story?

1. Usually by writing without pay until they have attracted attention. 2. That depends altogether on the merit of the story and the generosity of the publisher. There is no law prevailing against another man publishing his own works and doing his own advertising.

J. B., Paradise, Nev.:

What is the cost of food, clothing and medical attendance of a soldier in the army? Also, the cost of food, clothing and medical attendance of a convict in the penitentiaries?

The average annual cost of the United States army is $89,429,603, being about 78 cents for each inhabitant. The contract system prevails in a good many states, and the penitentiaries are a source of revenue. The average per capita cost of convicts is about $172.

H. S. H., Deerfield, Va.:

1. Who was the author of "The water that has once turned a mill can never be used again?" 2. Why did the BLADE stop the Medical Bureau? I failed to get the BLADE that told; hence this question.

1. Don't know. The quotation, however, should read: "The mill can never grind again with water that is past." 2. Because the questions became too numerous; all could not be answered in time to be of any service to the inquirers.

S. K., Loveland, Colo.:

I again respectfully ask you to describe some so called monopoly, and state whether there is any foundation for the so-called anti-monopoly party.

The Standard Oil company is said to be a great monopoly; also the Western Union Telegraph company; the sewing machine business was a great monopoly until the BLADE knocked the bottom out of it; and the paper business is a great monopoly in this great country for another political party, and it will be a cold day when leaders cannot be found for one.

L. H. G., Sidell, Ills.:

I notice in Chicago market reports that corn May is 4c. higher, and cash sales in store 37¾c. Why this difference? I have considerable corn to sell. Can I sell it to any of these Chicago parties at the May price, less freight and commissions? by delivering it there? It must be removed from the bins, and allowed to stand until it has cooled a little, when it should be again skimmed, if necessary, and then passed through a fine hair sieve. When sugar, molasses or solutions enter into the composition of syrups, they should be rendered perfectly transparent, by filtration, or clarification, before being added to the sugar.

Reader, Atlanta, Ill.:

Please give a short sketch of the life of Gen. Lew Wallace.

He was born in Fountain county, Ind., in 1828; studied law and began practice in Crawfordsville, but during the Mexican war was lieutenant in the first Indiana volunteers. He afterward resumed his profession, and served one term in the state senate. When the civil war broke out, he was appointed adjutant general of Indiana, and soon afterward colonel of a regiment of Zouaves, with whom he took part in the battle of Romney and other operations in Western Virginia; afterward colonel of the Eleventh Indiana regiment in Robert Rome at the festival of the Lupercalia during the month of February, when, among other ceremonies, the names of young women were drawn from a box, from which they were taken by young men, as chance directed. The pastors of the early church, finding it impossible to extirpate this pagan ceremony, changed its form. It was the custom on the eve of February 14, St. Valentine's day, to draw by lot the name of a select number of one sex put into some vessel by an equal number of the other; and thereupon every one drew a name, which for the time being was called his or her Valentine.

G. S., Lockport, N. Y.:

1. Does history give an instance where a monument was erected to a person for saving life? 2. Did William, Prince of Orange, ever gain a battle? 3. Were the Dutch and German originally one nation?

1. Yes. 2. He was not very successful as a warrior, but may have won one or two battles. 3. Of the various tribes and nations spoken of as inhabiting Northern Europe in ancient times, it is difficult to determine which were really of Germanic race, and which Celtic or Slavic; the classic writers having no skill in detecting the affinities of language, had only confused notions of ethnology. Undoubtedly the German nations took a great part in the destruction of the Roman Empire, the most prominent were the Goths, Lombards, Vandals, and Franks. The term Teutonic is derived from Teutones, the name of a nation or tribe first mentioned by Pytheas, who wrote about 320 B. C., as then inhabiting a part of the Cimbric Chersonesus, or Jutland. For the next 200 years there is no further mention of the Teutones, when they appear in history as ravaging Gaul. Doubts have been thrown on the claim of the Teutones to be considered Germans, although the best German authors hold the claim to be established. Roman writers, after the time of Cæsar and Tacitus, began to use the adjective Teutonicus as equivalent to Germanicus, and in this practice was adopted in the middle ages by Germans writing in Latin. The native term was *theodisk*, from Goth. *thiud*, people; and it is from this word, and not from Teutonic, that the modern Deutsch is derived.

S. L., Oakland, Ia.:

1. Please give a full description of the Confederate flag. 2. When was the island of Orleans ceded to England by France? 3. Of what is the nickel made?

1. Has been given several times. In the early part of the war the seceded states used distinctive state flags, until the Confederate Congress adopted the so-called "stars and bars," composed of three horizontal bars of equal width, the middle one white, colored, with a blue union, containing nine white stars arrayed in a circle. The resemblance of this to the "stars and stripes" led to confusion, and in September, 1861, a battle-flag was adopted, a red field charged with a Greek cross, with a narrow border of white, on which were displayed thirteen white stars. In 1863 the "stars and bars" was supplanted by a flag with a white field having the battle-flag for a union. This was found deficient in service, being liable to be mistaken for a flag of truce, and on February 4, 1865, the outer half of the field beyond the union was covered with a perpendicular bar. This was the last flag of the Confederacy. 2. Cannot find any record of the transfer. 3. It is closely allied to iron and cobalt, and is associated with them in meteorites and many ores. The principal ore of nickel is the arsenide, to which the name of kupfer-nickel, or false copper, because they tried in vain to extract copper from it; and it was in this mineral that Cronstedt first detected this metal, in 1751.

A Common Cold

Is often the beginning of serious affections of the Throat, Bronchial Tubes, and Lungs. Therefore, the importance of early and effective treatment cannot be overestimated. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral may always be relied upon for the speedy cure of a Cold or Cough.

Last January I was attacked with a severe Cold, which, by neglect and frequent exposures, became worse, finally settling on my lungs. A terrible cough soon followed, accompanied by pains in the chest, from which I suffered intensely. After trying various remedies, without obtaining relief, I commenced taking Ayer's Cherry Pectoral, and was

Speedily Cured.

I am satisfied that this remedy saved my life. — Jno. Webster, Pawtucket, R. I.

I contracted a severe cold, which suddenly developed into Pneumonia, presenting dangerous and obstinate symptoms. My physician ordered the use of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. His instructions were followed, and the result was a rapid and permanent cure. — H. E. Stimpson, Rogers Prairie, Tex.

Two years ago I suffered from a severe Cold, which settled on my Lungs. I consulted various physicians, and took the medicines they prescribed, but received only temporary relief. A friend induced me to try Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. After taking two bottles of this medicine I was cured. Since then I have given the Pectoral to my children, and consider it

The Best Remedy

for Colds, Coughs, and all Throat and Lung diseases, ever used in my family. — Robert Vanderpool, Meadville, Pa.

Some time ago I took a slight Cold, which, being neglected, grew worse, and settled on my Lungs. I had a hacking cough; and was very weak. Those who knew me best considered my life to be in great danger. I continued to suffer until I commenced using Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. Less than one bottle of this valuable medicine cured me, and I feel that I owe the preservation of my life to its curative powers. — Mrs. Ann Lockwood, Akron, New York.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral is considered, here, the one great remedy for all diseases of the throat and lungs, and is more in demand than any other medicine of its class. — J. F. Roberts, Magnolia, Ark. ††

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral,

Prepared by Dr. J. C. Ayer & Co., Lowell, Mass. Sold by all Druggists. Price $1; six bottles, $5.

Scovill's SARSAPARILLA OR BLOOD AND LIVER SYRUP.

A peerless remedy for Scrofula, White Swellings, Cancer, Erysipelas, Gout, Chronic Sores, Syphilis, Tumors, Carbuncles, Salt Rheum, Malaria, Bilious Complaints, and all diseases indicating an Impure Condition of the Blood, Liver, Stomach, Kidneys, Bowels, Skin, etc. This Grand Remedy is composed of vegetable extracts, chief of which are SARSAPARILLA and STILLINGIA. The cures effected are absolute. For sale by all Druggists.

JOHN F. HENRY & CO., New York.

Write for Illuminated Book.

CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS.

Festivities in the Early Days of "Merrie England" Pagan Rites.

Christmas is a festival that seems to be more particularly the property of children than of any other; not that everybody does not join in the celebration with all their hearts, but that children, in honor, perhaps of Him who became a child, are given the chief part in its pleasures.

In Cornwall, on Christmas Eve, the children are allowed to sit up till midnight, and to have a taste of cider, too, and in Devonshire they go, with their father and all the family and friends, out into the orchard with cider and cake, placing the latter in the crotch of one of the branches and throwing the cider over the tree. This is evidently the relic of an old Pagan rigte, bearing every appearance of the ancient sacrifice, a sacrifice to propitiate the tree to continue its fruitfulness, although why it should be offered on Christmas eve is not explained.

Indeed, there are many heathen customs that have been grafted upon our way of keeping Christmas. This will be understood when it is remembered that the early Christian fathers found it hard to keep their flocks from joining in the Pagan ceremonies at times of good feeling and jollity. They, therefore, wisely made their own ceremonies conform to the same occasion, so that if their people must celebrate they could be celebrated Christian facts. Thus the old Roman Saturnalia, a time of great merry-making, to speak mildly, coming at this season of the year, the early fathers thought best to harmonize it with their Christmas festivities.

From the Saturnalia are descended the "Mummers," a band of people who go about in masks, in England, and enact some rude play before the doors. Whatever this play was in the days of the Saturnalia, in the Christian days it has usually been the story of St. George and the Dragon—old Father Christmas, crowned with holly and carrying a wassail bowl, introducing St. George, a huge scaly dragon and doctor to bind up the wounds, to all of whom the children at the windows are delighted to throw their half-pennies.

Again, in Great Britain the priests of the new religion borrowed from the Druids, for their Christmas use, the observance of the solstice with great solemnity, and allowed also some of the customs of the ancient Saxons to be absorbed. Thus, from the Druids we have the mistletoe, and from the Saxon the Yule log.

There is a cheer and generous hospitality in the log which it warms one to think of. In the places where such a thing is really burned, when it is cut and dragged along to be placed on the hearth, and lighted from the embers of last year's log, put away for that purpose, every wayfarer finds his hat to it as he goes along, it means also much.

From what the "Waits," another accompaniment of Christmas, dear to English children, have descended is not certainly ascertained: but there was a company of "Waits" as early as the year 1400, and it is understood that they were then strolling players on foot, and not performers on wind instruments; and that is all they are to-day.

The one purely Christmas observance in all these glad, gay ceremonies is the "Carols." The singers have a picturesqueness as the glimmer of their lanterns illumines them by fits and starts in the darkness of the snow, and their voices have a weirdness that is stolen from their songs. The "Carols" are sung now all over the European continent, and in England usually by a portion of the church choir on Christmas eves, and often on Christmas mornings by certain of the children of the parish. In the early ages the bishops sang them among their clergy.

In all these things children have their share, being the principal ones to enjoy them; while with the "Mummers" a little girl goes, having no other part than that of carrying a branch of Christmas green. The Christmas tree, which is the most positive feature of the children's Christmas nowadays, was not known in England at all, among the English speaking children, till after the good Prince Albert came to England.

The very fact that Christmas means a rite celebrating the day of Christ's birth, gives children especial claim upon the day which belongs to the Holy Child, and one of the appellations of whose patron saint is Kriss Kringle, which means the Christ Child.

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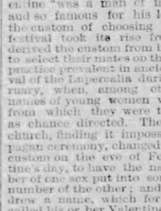

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Christmas in Canada.

Christmas and New Year's day are the culmination, though not the end, of Canadian winter life. Even the beggars are then most active and joyous in this charitable community. The housewives are busy for some days cooking meats and pastry and decorating their houses, and secluded Canada joins the rest of the world for once in this season of rejoicing. On Christmas Eve, however, the houses are so dark and still that you wonder if the festival has been forgotten. In the convents the children are dreaming of Bethlehem and the worship of the shepherds. They hear a chorus of angels chanting as they come near and nearer; celestial light fills the world; when, suddenly opening their eyes, they find the nuns lighting the lamps, and the choir in the dormitory, chanting a Christmas carol to awaken them for midnight mass. All over the parish, throughout Canada, and indeed in every Catholic country, the people are issuing now from their palaces or their cabins into the night, and wending their way to the temples. The bells peal out at midnight, the arched windows glow, and soon the entire parish is seen kneeling under the great dome.

Not for Seven Men.

A mark of respect is always paid the Court of Appeals as the robed judges formally march in, ascend to the bench, and become seated, by all within the rail rising. This morning two ladies were inside the rail when the court opened. Clerk Perrin jocosely said to them: "You are compelled to stand up when the court enters." One of the ladies pertly replied: "I would not stand up for the best seven men in the United States."—*Albany Journal.*

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TO THE FRIENDS OF THE BLADE.

We call especial attention to the advertisement on the fifth page announcing the giving away, this winter, of something over $2,000 in premiums for raising clubs for the WEEKLY BLADE. No more liberal offer was ever made by any newspaper, and it should result in an enormous increase in the circulation of the BLADE—the Old Reliable Family Newspaper. Some one is going to get a $650 Piano, somebody is going to get a first-class Cabinet Organ, some one will get a first-class Singer Sewing Machine, and scores will receive other premiums, every one of which is of good intrinsic value. In addition to these extra premiums, every one who interests him, or her, self in the matter gets very liberal pay for what they do, whether they secure a premium or not.

Now what you want to do is to get our terms to agents, and get to work. Those who already have them, should commence on receipt of this number of the paper.

The awards of these extra Premiums will be made May first. The field is open to everybody, men, women and children, and the rewards are rich. A $650 Piano is not picked up every day, nor is any other of the beautiful articles we propose to give away. Begin your work now.

REVIEW OF THE WEEK.

THE holiday trade is reported good all over the country. The general money situation has depressed the tone of regular trading, and the prices in all leading branches. The scarcity of funds has checked the rise in prices, and thus given a decided check to the extension of business in many lines.

THE recent stock flurry in Wall street demonstrates that mankind will not learn the lesson of prudence, no matter how severe may be the instruction. One would suppose that the years we have just passed through since 1883, of continued dullness in all lines of business, and a shaving of profits to the smallest possible margin, would have taught the present generation of commercial men a lesson. Yet no sooner does business begin to revive, our industries to set every wheel in motion, than a spirit of wild and reckless speculation sets in on Wall street; values of stocks are forced to what every one knows to be a fictitious value, the bottom drops out, and the fools fall in a confused heap, minus their money. It would not matter were they alone concerned; but Wall street ups and downs produce a direct effect upon the money market, and thus influence the business of the country at large.

MORRISON'S defeat on Saturday created no surprise, for the result of the November elections showed so clearly the temper of the people to be averse to the ruinous free trade policy that any increase of the vote the bill received at last year's session of Congress was not to be expected. The fact is settled that the Forty-ninth Congress will not consider the work of revising the tariff, but that it will be left for the Fiftieth Congress to do. This is all right. The tariff needs a readjustment at many points, and this would have been accomplished long ago, had it not been for the foolish efforts of the free traders to abolish it entirely. The work must be done by the friends of protection, not by its enemies.

THE United States Senate voted down the proposition for open executive sessions by a majority of only two. They will have to fall into line with the advanced sentiment of the country on this point.

THE vote in the Senate by which the bill repealing the tenure-of-office act was passed stood yeas 30, nays 22. Three Republicans voted for the bill.

THE Senate bill, with amendments, has passed the House, which allots to the Indiana located on reservations in the West, with some exceptions, certain quantities of such reservation lands in severalty for individual ownership as farms. The bill now goes back to the Senate for concurrence in the House amendments.

THE national House of Representatives is not disposing of important measures as rapidly and promisingly as it began. On its calendar are the majority of the bills discussed and passed in the Senate at the last session, some of them of prime importance, such as the Dawes Indian bill, the bill for the admission as states of Dakota and Washington territories, etc. In addition the House calendars are crowded with measures reported by its own committees at the last session. The holiday adjournment comes in a few days, and when Congress reassembles in January there will be but eight weeks to the close of the session. If anything is to be accomplished there is no time to squander.

THERE is one kind of economy that loses in one way more than it saves in another. And it is this sham article that is generally patronized by the Democratic party. The lack of appropriations for the Mississippi river work last year compelled the government's construction plant to be idle, and the commission reports its value at $200,000 less than it was last year—that amount being lost by disuse.

THERE are four territories knocking at the door of the Union asking admission—Dakota, Washington, Montana and New Mexico. A bill has been introduced for their admission, and there is hope that the obstructive policy of the Democrats in Congress will no longer prevail.

A MEMORIAL has been presented to Congress asking for the enactment of a federal law on the subject of divorce. This matter is one that has been recently discussed in many church conventions and assemblies, and immediate action urged by them. The law should be uniform in all states, and there is no way of reaching this uniformity save by Congressional action.

MR. HEWITT has introduced in Congress a measure authorizing the secretary of the Treasury to anticipate the payment of interest on the bonded debt of the United States, and to provide for special deposits of public money.

A SENSIBLE bill is that introduced in the House to prohibit the appointment of Congressional committees to attend funerals, and to prohibit the draping of buildings in mourning except by order of the President.

THE comptroller of the Currency, who is ex officio commissioner of the Freedman's Saving and Trust company, reports a balance on hand of $7,719. He makes a plea in favor of the assumption by the government of the liabilities of the institution and a settlement with the depositors.

IT is alleged that the Ohio & Mississippi and the Illinois Central railroads have refused to carry coal from the mines at St. Clair, Illinois, and Cannelsburg, Indiana, which are being run on the co-operative plan by the Knights of Labor. If true, it is an outrage that should at once be redressed by the strong arm of the law. The action of the roads is an attempt to keep up the price of coal, and a blow at co-operative work. It amounts to a conspiracy against the best interest of the people. The men who wish to build up monopolies should be sat down upon at the earliest possible moment. It is a boycott on the people, and should be crushed out, even if the charters of the two roads engaged in the infamous scheme have to be forfeited.

THE Union Pacific railway is about to adopt 24-hour time. Noon will be 12 o'clock, and midnight will be 24. Six in the evening will be 18 o'clock. An ordinary clock can be changed to the 24-hour system, by pasting the numbers from 13 to 24 inclusive in a circle immediately inside the regular figures. Put 13 under 1, 14 under 2, and so on, 24 coming under 12. From midnight until noon use the outer circle of figures, and from noon until midnight the inner circle.

BREWERY employes at Cincinnati recently organized as Knights of Labor, taking the name "Gambrinus assembly." Monday prominent Knights of Labor met and decided to protest to Mr. POWDERLY on the ground that saloonists are not eligible to membership in the organization.

THE Ohio State Grange on yesterday adopted a resolution in favor of an extension of the Dow law prohibitory clause to townships and counties. So the ball rolls on, gathering strength as it goes. The people of Ohio are overwhelmingly in favor of local option.

ALTHOUGH license carried at the recent municipal election in Boston, a comparison of the vote with that of previous years is a clear indication of what is coming a year hence. In 1884 the majority for license was 13,384; in 1885 it was 9,319, and this year it is 3,457.

THERE is an epidemic of measles in New York city, and the number of adults attacked is larger than ever before known. The number of deaths for the week ending December 18 foots up a total of nearly 800.

THE friends of the late Gen. HANCOCK have raised a fund for the purchase of a home for Mrs. HANCOCK in Washington, where she will hereafter reside.

THE twenty-seventh international convention of the Y. M. C. A will be held in San Francisco early in May, 1887.

THE great subject of discussion in Germany at the present time is the Army bill, and whether it will pass or not. The rumors of a possibility of war have caused great excitement, although those politicians who are opposed to the bill see in them only the way which BISMARCK has taken to carry the measure through, and that his object is, by showing that the Reichstag is ready to make any sacrifices for the Fatherland, to avert any danger of a struggle. There is no question, however, but that there is cause for apprehension, and that an accident might cause war at any moment. It is felt that Germany can contend with France alone, but should France and Russia combine, she might find it mote difficult. This is the probable contingency which renders the situation one of grave moment to the German government.

ALTHOUGH the feeling in Germany is that a war is to be carried on with France, yet, singular as it may seem, the animosity against that country is less at the present time than against Russia, and the certainty of a war with the latter would be met with far more enthusiasm. At the same time it is true that Germany is not yet well prepared for a struggle with either country, although she is pushing her preparations rapidly, and by spring will be in a much better condition for fighting. One thing is certain, and that is that the nations of Europe cannot much longer endure the ruinous expense of sustaining such large standing armies, and it will be necessary to reduce them, or begin the war which has been threatened for several years past.

SOME part of the German hostility to Russia has arisen from the Czar's haughty refusal to consider the German candidate to the Bulgarian throne. He has also refused to recognize the candidate to whom the Bulgarian delegates have offered the crown of their country, which is Prince FERDINAND, of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, an officer of the Austrian army. Austria having already declared her decision to favor any prince who was elected by the Bulgarians, will be likely to support him, and the more readily that he is an Austrian. Germany is in favor of this prince, and has urged Russia to accept him as a compromise, but, as said before, the latter refused. Evidently the czar is determined upon a war at any cost, and it remains to be seen whether he can be restrained in forcing such a general struggle as it must be when once begun.

THE French Chamber of Deputies last week passed the Provisional Budget for two months. M. GOBLET declared that the present cabinet did not mean to deal in vile declarations, but would carry acts into effect. Meanwhile the suppression of the public worship budget would be illegal. When a large majority of the country called for a settlement of the religious question, then it would become possible, but not now. He closed with a strong appeal for support from the Republicans.

THE proclaiming of the long threatened policy of coercion by the Tory government of Great Britain is looked upon by the leaders of the National League as a step towards the suppression of the latter. This proclamation warns all persons who incite tenants to refuse to pay rents that this is illegal, and that the anti-rent movement is a criminal conspiracy against the government. It also says that all moneys or documents connected with such conspiracy are liable to seizure. This sweeping measure seems designed to initiate a war against the league and will be likely to have a serious outcome. The funds of the latter have already been removed to France. It is likely, however, that when Parliament meets some of these measures will be modified. Meanwhile several with MR. DILLON have been arrested and will be tried for endeavoring to stir up rebellion against the government.

IT now is announced that when Parliament meets only two Irish measures will be taken up for consideration. One of these will be a coercion law; the other a bill to facilitate the sale of Irish estates to the tenants on terms acceptable to the landowners, and with the aid of grants of the public money. This is the programme; but there are several difficulties in the way. The Home Rulers are more powerful and no less determined than ever before. If they have recourse to a policy of obstruction, they will have the active support of the Radical Home Rulers who sit for English constituencies.

M. N. DROZ, a Radical, has been elected President of Switzerland for 1887.

THE new gold mines in Australia, it is said, will prove to be among the best paying and most permanent in the world.

Alexandre Dumas Tells How He Wrote His Brilliant Book.

In the *edition de luxe* of his best works, which Alexandre Dumas fils has been preparing for some years past, has now appeared *La Dame aux Camelias*, with a hitherto unpublished preface. All lovers of the witty, and in some respects profound work, which M. Dumas has done in these comedies, will be pleased to see the following extracts from this new introduction to a play so universally known as *Camille*—as we call it in English. The distinguished author, addressing his publisher, in a preface to the preface remarks: "You ask me for a preface for a new illustrated edition of *La Dame aux Camelias*. You ask it from precisely the one man in the world who can say neither good nor bad of this book. Janin has told us about Marie Duplessis all that was to be said; he has even added a little embroidery here and there. I have repeated, in my turn, either in the preface to the play or in the notes to the Comedians' Edition, everything remaining in my memory about this beautiful girl, who had such marked influence over my literary career, since I owe to her my first success as a novelist and my very first as a dramatist. M. de Contades recently published, in the review called *Figaro*, a series of studies and a mass of most exact information concerning her. I have nothing more to add now. I will now I have to the book in three weeks on the corner of a table at Saint-German-en-Laye, in a room for which I paid a franc a day at the *White Horse*—the only inn which I had found open one evening when I had missed the last train. Have I already told that? But that matter, is it very interesting? Would it be better to indulge in philosophical reflections on prostitution and on the social influence of courtesans? Hardly, would it? Well, here goes for the history of the birth of the book.

"I had, then, as we have seen, missed my train, and I had gone to stay at the *White Horse*, on the main street, some thirty-seven or thirty-eight years ago. I was accompanied by a friend, who had been to dine with me at my father's house, at Monte Christo. We each took a room at this inn, principally frequented, in those days, by carters and stage drivers, who are employed on the neighboring routes. When we awoke in the morning it was a superb day. Instead of returning to Paris, we decided to go to Ravelet's and take horses for a ride in the wood. You never knew Ravelet! I am sorry for you. Ravelet kept a livery stable and riding school on the first *road point* of the terrace of Saint-Germain. He was celebrated in our generation. He bought all the unruly, vicious, balky, runaway horses from the garrison of Saint-Germain, and people came in bands from Paris expressly to mount them. At thirty cents an hour, all summer long, from seven in the morning until nine in the evening, they were soon cured of the vices which caused their exclusion from cavalry service. They were saddled either with side-saddles or the others; as soon as the gentlemen or ladies were in their seats the animals were driven from the stable by a few good blows from the whip, and away they went. It was very amusing, seasoned with youth and laughter. Not every rider got a fall; and those who did, picked themselves up again! happy days!

"This Ravelet's place was, as you can imagine, a favorite rendezvous. From 1840 to 1860—in which latter year improvements on the terrace caused the removal of his establishment—Ravelet had seen on the backs of his sorry nags most of the pretty girls of the Parisian *demi monde*, including Marie Duplessis, who was very fond of coming to this spot, and enjoyed, to the full extent of her feverish nature, the gallop in the forest.

"I remember a rather droll story about a cherry tree, which was the finest ornament of the country and of this stable. One day, I came and asked the hostlers to saddle me a horse. While waiting, I asked Ravelet if I might climb his tree and eat some of the fruit. 'You may,' he answered, 'you will find some one already up there.' I then perceived a small ladder leaning against the opposite side of the tree. I ran up it and found a young woman, pretty although a brunette, as my friend had said, seated in a crotch between two branches, and tranquilly eating cherries: 'With your permission, Madame,' I said—'*Comment donc, Monsieur!* With the greatest pleasure!' And there we were, eating cherries, and babbling of everything which came into our heads, on a fine June morning, a youth of twenty and a pretty girl who had met in a cherry tree. Four or five years ago, I went into a curiosity shop to price a Louis Sixteenth mirror, I found the shopkeeper, an amiable elderly lady, with hair turning grey—well, it was grey—but with black eyes still alive and with fine teeth still white. I said to myself: 'I've seen that face somewhere.' She looked at me with a smile. Finally, I said so steadfastly at her that she felt that I was on the track of a remembrance. She said: 'Yes, in the cherry tree at Saint-Germain.'

"My friend was so delighted with the beautiful weather that he wished to remain a few days longer at Saint-Germain. He offered to return to Paris and bring out such linen and grants as we should need for a more improvised sojourn in the country. Meantime I offered to go and see my father, and prepare rooms for myself and friend which would be more comfortable than those at the *White Horse*. But my friend is afraid of disturbing the author of the *Impressionnes*, and besides the neighborhood of Ravelet, the horses, the cherry trees and the consequences which these various things might bring about had a superior attraction for him. Hardly had I left for Paris, hardly was I alone on the race where I had walked so often with Marie Duplessis, when I began to think about her, and then the idea of writing her story, or at any rate a story about her, took possession of me, and so imperiously that I bought three or four quires of foolscap, pens, and ink, and went back into my room at a franc a day, where I began the book, while awaiting my friend's return. When he came back to dinner, he found me hard at work, and with such enthusiasm that I did not wish to leave Saint-Germain before I had written the last word. It was all done in about three weeks. My friend became so interested in my work that he made a clean copy as fast as I wrote, on condition that he might have the original manuscript. I gave it to him, and he took it to sea in a voyage that he made to the Indies, before the Suez canal was opened. Somewhere near the Cape of Good Hope, the ship was struck by a sudden tempest, and a great portion of the cargo and baggage was thrown into the waves.

CHEAP HOLIDAY BOOKS.

For four weeks we will offer, postpaid by mail, the five books of our own publication: "Andersonville," "Nasby in Exile," "Old Dr. Carlin's Recipes," "Health and Beauty," and "Social Etiquette," when all ordered at once, for *Five Dollars*. At our regular price, when ordered one or two at a time, they would cost $6.50. We shall withdraw this offer after Christmas. Of these five books our total sales have been about 100,000. Every family should have the whole set. See descriptions of titles in another column.

RENEWALS, and new subscriptions accompanying, are coming in beautifully, for which we thank our friends. We ask a continuance. The BLADE is the cheapest paper in the world, and, as good as it is, we shall make it better every week. Roll in the subscriptions and help us attain our ambition, which is a circulation of 200,000.

THE Charleston relief committee acknowledges the receipt of $634,258 from the general public for the sufferers from the earthquake. After reserving $86,139 of the remainder to complete the repairing of houses, the sum of $100,000 will be deposited with the city treasurer to aid in rebuilding charitable institutions.

DARNEY'S denial is not understood to deny. He is said to have boasted that he was a rebel prison guard at the age of 14. He denies, in a letter to Commissioner BLACK, that he was ever at Andersonville. Now comes the question, where was he? At which of the rebel prison pens did he serve?

THE *National Republican* points out a funny blunder in the report of the secretary of the Treasury. On page 43 Mr. MANNING recommends the removal of the tax on raw wool to reduce the revenue, and on page 44 says that the removal would not reduce the income.

THE total subscription to the Charleston relief fund throughout the country amounts to $815,000, leaving a loss of over five and a half millions by the earthquake and the cyclone of 1885 to be borne by individuals, corporations and the government.

"We favor a wise and judicious system of general education by adequate appropriation from the national revenues whenever the same is needed.—*Republican Platform*, 1884."

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

By the time this issue of the Weekly BLADE reaches its half million of readers—and we say half million because we estimate that at least four persons read each individual paper that is issued—it will be Christmas day; and we therefore wish them, one and all, a "Merry Christmas!"

It is well that we should turn our thoughts backward across the ages to the event which the Christian world celebrates—the birth of a little child, of poor, obscure parents, in a despised and downtrodden nation, in an age of extreme wickedness—this it is that the Christmas anniversary commemorates, and it is that event from which all dates in the civilized world are to-day reckoned. Our nation is to-day what it is, simply because of that child's birth; for was not he the Prince of Peace, the Savior who should cleanse his people from their sins?

As the festival commemorates the birth of the Christ-child, it is emphatically the children's festival the world over. The magnetism in the wonderful life of JESUS draws mankind from hard and selfish ways to the love of our brethren and our neighbors. ISAIAH the prophet, looking with the eye of faith through the clouds of futurity that veiled the coming of the Messiah, declared: "He shall turn the hearts of the fathers to the children and the children to the fathers." The work of JESUS was to quicken human affection, to bind men closer in bonds of helpful brotherhood, to make humanity alive to the uses of living rather than to the gains of life, and to make them as careful against injuring each other as they are zealous to watch against receiving injury.

Our forefathers in the wilds of Northern Europe and the British Isles, defied the power of the pagan emperors of old Rome, yet their hearts yielded to the mild sway of the White King who came from the East, whose symbol was the cross of his suffering, and whose earthly life was one of love and self-denial for his brethren. And we to-day, their descendants, though we may cavil over creeds, and dispute about ordinances, can see the increasing tide of real Christianity through the ages down to now. We look about us to-day, and note a higher and purer family affection, a growing sense of brotherhood, an increasing spirit of helpfulness, transfusing society. We can mark the righteous discontent with wrongs which we would tolerate in silence did we listen to the counsels of self-indulgence and selfishness. We can note the growing conviction that the weak are a trust given to the strong, that the strong are the guardians of the weak. And when we can see these things not partially but wholly the rule with the world, then will JESUS the King "see the travail of his soul and be satisfied."

A SILLY POLICY.

The penny wise and pound foolish policy is apparently to rule the appropriations made by Congress the present winter. The House committee on Rivers and Harbors, in fixing appropriations, is allowing about 25 per cent of the amounts which the chief of engineers reports can be profitably expended on the improvements. If this policy is adhered to the result will be a bill making an aggregate appropriation of between $7,000,000 and $8,000,000 The secretary of War recommended a gross appropriation of $10,000,000.

What is the only question that a business man or a company would ask concerning the propriety of any given item of expenditure for a permanent improvement to a mill or factory, a wharf or road, for instance? Simply, what will it cost, and will the benefit from the improvement be equal to the outlay? This answered affirmatively, the next step is to proceed to do the work as promptly and economically as possible. It is true economy to proceed as rapidly as is consistent, for it saves much expense from deterioration of the work while in an incomplete state, salaries of overseers, and other costly factors of delay.

What possible reason can be given for the silly line of conduct which the River and Harbor committee of the House is pursuing? The manner in which the appropriations are spent, and not their total amount, determines whether they are wasteful or not. A river and harbor bill of $5,000,000, spent in improving obscure creeks and unimportant streams which have no commerce would be abominable waste, while a bill which appropriated $15,000,000, each item of which was for such important works as the Toledo straight channel, would not be profuse nor unnecessary. There is a class of cheap demagogues in Congress who aim to secure their tenure to their seats by a false show of economy, and it is to the efforts of such weaklings that the policy of cutting down appropriations to a less total than those of last year is due.

When will the people send men of at least ordinary business sagacity to Congress to attend to public affairs? It is in guarding against any appropriation whatever for any unnecessary improvement or purpose that is needed, not a cutting down of appropriations for necessary and proper objects. When it is once decided that a certain thing should be done, it is the truest economy for the goverment to do it as speedily as possible. It costs the people less, in reality, to expend $100,000 in one year for a given piece of work which can be completed in that time, than it does to continue the work ten years on an annual appropriation of $10,000 each. This blind management is on a par with the man who killed his hogs in September so as to save the cost of the corn necessary to fatten them till December.

OUR GREAT PREMIUMS.

There is going to be sharp competition for our premiums. Every mail brings us notices of intending competitors who send long lists of names to whom to send specimens to help them in their work. It is not singular, for these premiums were never equalled by any newspaper. Just think of it. A piano, a cabinet organ, sewing machines, and other articles of value. Compete for these premiums. If you don't win one you still get better pay for your work than you can in any other way, for whether you secure a premium or not you get your commission all the same.

THE free trade idea is to reduce the duty on imported articles which are produced in this country to a point that will deprive the American manufacturers of any protection, and then to impose sufficient duty upon articles not produced here to enable the government to raise sufficient revenue for its needs. Sec. MANNING recommends a duty of two cents a pound on coffee and six cents a pound on tea. Rio and Maracaibo coffees, which the poor man buys, sell in New York at from 13 to 15 cents per pound, and two cents per pound would increase the price one-seventh. Java and Mocha coffees, which the rich buy, are worth from 50 to 24 cents per pound, and the two cents would increase the price only one-eleventh. The poor man's tea, which costs 20 to 25 cents per pound, would be taxed from 25 to 20 per cent.; the rich man's tea, which costs 60 to 80 cents per pound, would be taxed from 7 to 10 per cent. This is the sort of thing which the free trade gang propose, in the interests of British manufacturers. They wish to give the latter our market for their products, and raise the government's revenue by a tax on the necessaries of life, distinguishing against the poor and in favor of the rich.

THE significant omissions from the President's long message were polygamy, interstate commerce, and the admission of Dakota.

THE USES OF MIDDLE-MEN.

A subscriber at Clark, Dakota, sends the BLADE the following questions:

In the sense in which I desire to make the following inquiries the people are divided into five classes, viz.:

1st—Producers, including manufacturers and importers. 2d—Wholesalers and jobbers. 3d—Retailers. 4th—Drummers, or traveling salesmen, and 5th—The buying classes or consumers.

My first inquiry is, Has there ever been a proposition made by any writer on political economy to eliminate the three intermediate classes? 2d—About how many people are at present included in each of the said three intermediate classes in the United States? 3d—What does the maintenance of each of these classes cost in this country each year?

Our correspondent's queries are narrow in scope, as they refer only to manufactured products. We do not recall any proposition by any writer of recognized reputation on economics to dispense with the three classes he specifies, though he will remember that one of the objects prominently advocated by the Grange organization a few years ago was the abolition of the middle men, and the distribution of manufactured goods directly to the consumers from first hands. Many Granges established stores for this purpose, and there are a number of these still in existence.

We have no statistics at hand to determine, with any approach to trustworthiness, the numbers respectively engaged in the three intermediate occupations between producers and consumers, nor the cost of their annual maintenance. While there is no doubt that each of these classes comes in for its share of the profits of the sales, it does not follow that their abolition would give the consumers the benefit of the profits they make. An examination of the matter will show that they are to some extent necessary to the thorough distribution of products. Were the importers and manufacturers to extend their business, for instance, so as to abolish the jobbers, it would cost them much more than it does now. A jobbing house must be in some city with excellent facilities for the distribution of goods by rail or water, or both, to all parts of the country. A manufacturer in the interior would have to keep a distributing house in some city, and the cost of doing this would probably be as great as to allow another man to attend to the jobbing. The "drummers," also, were an outgrowth of the competition between manufacturers and wholesalers, to obtain trade and to make the merits of their goods more widely known. The retailers are a convenience to the consumers themselves, especially to small buyers, and to abolish them would work hardship. In point of fact, it would be impracticable.

There is, we may add, no way of doing away with these three classes through legal enactment. The only way would be for the consumers to refuse to buy of any but first hands. This can only be done by co-operation, and we are not certain that it would make things any better if it were done.

While we are speaking of this matter, let us remark that every man, woman and child in the country is a consumer. The iron manufacturer is a producer, but he needs food, drink, clothing, household furniture and the thousand and one requirements of civilized life for himself and his family, and is hence a consumer of these. The farmer is a producer of food of several classes, but he is a consumer of tea and coffee, sugar, and many other articles of food, of clothing, of machinery, and a long list of other articles. In point of fact, the division of the people into producers and consumers is a somewhat strained one. All are consumers, and nearly all are producers—that is, if those whose office it is to distribute products shall be included in the latter class, where they legitimately belong.

If our correspondent will consider the matter anew, he will find that the existence of this class of middle-men to which he refers is an outgrowth of two things—first, the convenience of the manufacturer or importer, and of the buyer; second, of the competition between dealers and manufacturers for a market. A manufacturing firm would either have to withdraw part of its capital from its business if it went into the jobbing trade or else obtain additional capital from outside sources; in neither case would the goods be cheapened to the consumer in any appreciable degree. To abolish the retailers would entail so much inconvenience that it is unnecessary to discuss it. To abolish the drummers would merely increase the number of jobbers in certain sections, and reduce the number at other points; it would be a change that would bring but little relief to the buyer.

An illustration will show the convenience of the classes of middle-men. We will assume that our correspondent is a professional man, living in a town. He buys his flour at the nearest grocery. To carry out his idea, he would have to go out into the country to a farmer, buy wheat, take it to a custom mill and have it made into flour, and then take it home. He would soon find that the inconvenience, loss of time, etc., would counterbalance the intermediate profits of the grain-dealer, miller and retailer. And so it would be in any case. The only way to buy goods cheap is to buy in large quantities so as to get the benefit of the discounts, which are greatest to the largest buyers. To do this he would have to lay out his money for a long time, till the goods were all consumed. True, he might form a club of a dozen or twenty members, and buy at wholesale. This is the only feasible form of co operation, and there are millions of our people so situated that such action is practically impossible. Where it can be done, it is advisable, because it results in a saving.

JUDGE THOMAS M. COOLEY, of Ann Arbor, Mich., the newly-appointed receiver of the Wabash road, is one of the best known jurists of this country. He was born at Attica, N. Y., January 6, 1824, and removed to Michigan in 1843. Some two years later he entered upon the profession of law, and has attained to the foremost rank among the writers on legal subjects as well as a member of the higher bench. In 1850 he became a professor of law in the University of Michigan. He was elected justice of the Supreme court of the state in 1864 and became chief justice by succession in 1867. He was returned to the bench for three terms. His interpretations of constitutional law and general questions have always been considered authorities in their several ways.

IT is coming, and not a day too soon! The organization is announced, in Tennessee, of the "Society for the Suppression of Unearned Military Titles." The crying need of such an organization has long been needed, not only in the South, among the "kunnels" and "majahs," but in the North, where we have entirely too many men wearing military titles of all grades to which they have no right. We look for a rapid spread of this useful society, and bid it God-speed on its sensible mission.

SEN. SHERMAN declares in favor of an appropriation of $100,000,000 for putting our defenseless coasts in a proper condition to repel hostile fleets. Nobody but a free trader would oppose so necessary a work.

THE labor candidate for mayor of Boston received 3,437 votes; O'BRIEN, Democrat, who received his third election, 28,387; HART, Republican, 18,719.

THERE has been no new state admitted into the Union in ten years. Dakota's Republicanism has stood in the way.

THE New York *Sun*, which is Democratic and protectionist, nominates Mr. RANDALL for President.

OUR SPLENDID PREMIUMS.

If you have not done so already, examine our magnificent scheme of premiums and enter the lists for one of them. No matter whether you get a premium or not, you will be well paid for what you do, IN MONEY. You may reach the Piano, but whether or no, you can lose nothing, and are certain to make a welcome addition to your pocket money for the winter. Men or women, boys or girls, there is room for all. We want a good worker at every postoffice. Send for our special terms to clubraisers, and learn what you can do, and what you will get for it

EVILS OF RAILWAY CORPORATIONS.

The decision of Judge GRESHAM in the Wabash case has called the attention of the people at large to the evils attending large corporations, and the difficulty of reaching them by legal process. One of these is the formation of a corporation within a corporation, as was illustrated in the Ellsworth Coal company, all of whose stockholders are directors of the Wabash. It was this company which sold coal to the road, and received enormous rebates, thus enabling the stockholders to coin money out of the railroad which was in their control. Then where the law of a state prohibits a corporation from pursuing any business not mentioned in its charter, it is easily evaded by the formation of a second corporation, composed of the same persons, to pursue the inhibited business. This evades the law, of course. If we are not mistaken, this is the law in Pennsylvania, but the anthracite coal ring finds it easy to set the law at defiance by this simple expedient.

It will be seen that it is most difficult to provide against this practice by law. A statute which would do away with this evil would also be a detriment to legitimate enterprises, to check which would be an injury to the community at large. It is an exceedingly difficult thing to legislate so as to stop unscrupulous men, and yet allow honest men proper liberty for business enterprises.

Among the evils of great corporations like our railways is the holding of enormous blocks of stock by one person; the majority of a road's ownership may be in the hands of a ring, who have pooled their interests, and they may wreck the road, yet the minority stockholders can not lift a finger to help themselves. A remedy is proposed for this in the *American Grocer* for the current week. It proposes that the English system, with proper modifications, be introduced here. In that country, each railway share is entitled to one vote, up to a certain number, when held by one person. After one holder has that number, each share then bears but a fraction of a vote. Hence 1,000 shares held by one person carry a less number of votes than 1,000 shares held in small lots or by individuals. This plan has the drawback that an unscrupulous man—a JAY GOULD—would have a number of his own shares held by his tools, and their votes would be in his power, in case they were needed to push some scheme for personal profit. The wisdom of our law-makers should be taxed to give minorities a proper show in the management of the property; it is a hard problem, but it is one that must be solved.

TO THOSE NOT SUBSCRIBERS WHO RECEIVE THIS NUMBER OF THE BLADE.

A great many people, who are not subscribers will receive this number of the BLADE. We ask of all such a careful examination, and a just comparison with any other paper printed. And then, if it pleases you, as it will, remit your subscription at once, and secure its weekly visits. $1.00 a year, 30 cents for three months. You will never regret it.

REDUCING THE REVENUE.

The Democratic members of the present Congress and the present executive were elected in 1884, on a platform which declared emphatically for a reduction of the revenue. "Reduce the surplus" was the battle-cry of the campaign. What has been done? Nothing. The Democratic party seems utterly incapable of formulating a respectable policy. Its best hold is in howling at the policy and acts of its opponents. It is, in its nature, a party of malcontents, growling at existing conditions, but without the capacity to propose or carry out a statesmanlike and acceptable plan of accomplishing a change.

The Republicans in Congress have now taken hold of the problem of reducing the revenue, and will have a practical plan elaborated before the Democratic members have done anything. It is said that a Republican caucus will soon be held, at which plans will be submitted and discussed, and a harmonious policy mapped out for action. The suggestions so far made are: to strike off the tobacco tax, which will reduce the internal revenue $28,000,000 per year; cut down the sugar duty 20 per cent., which will reduce the revenue from this item about $10,000,000; to make alcohol used in the arts and manufactures free, thus striking off $10,000,000 of revenue. These three items will effect a total reduction of $48,000,000. Further plans will be matured and presented to the caucus when it meets.

Meanwhile, the Democrats are doing nothing, simply because they have nothing to offer save a general cutting-down of the tariff so as to eliminate its protective features. The result of this would be, that the revenue would not be materially reduced, but would probably be increased. The crushing out of American manufactures would add enormously to our imports, so that even at the reduced duties, the total customs revenue would be very large. Such a plan can not hope for adoption by Congress, and the free trade Democrats will be reduced to their old line of fault-finding at whatever is done, reminding one of the yellow cur sitting by the roadside and barking at the passing railway train.

SPECIMEN COPIES.

Send us, please, the name and address of every friend you have in the world, to whom we may send specimen copies of the WEEKLY BLADE. It makes no difference where they are located, north, south, east or west, for the BLADE circulates in every state and territory, and, by the way it is the only paper that does. Send in the names and do your friends a favor. You can get a great many addresses on a postal card.

THE DOW LAW IS CONSTITUTIONAL.

The Supreme court of the state of Ohio has decided that the Dow liquor tax law is constitutional in all its features, including the clause which makes the tax a lien upon the property in which the sale is carried on, and also that the tax assessed under this law is not a license within the meaning of the noted clause of the constitution of the state which forbids the granting of license.

The immediate effect of this decision will be to add the amount of the tax for the present year to the sums now in the treasuries of the counties of the state. The saloon element, which has defied the law from the day that it went into effect, has exhausted all possible tactics to avoid compliance with its provisions, and must now submit, or quit liquor-selling. Meantime, the immediate future of liquor legislation in Ohio will be largely influenced by the attitude of the liquor men themselves. There is no doubt that their desperate efforts to avoid all control, to evade sharing the burdens of taxation, have had the effect of largely adding to the temperance sentiment of the voters of the state. A failure to accept the decision of the highest tribunal of the state as a settlement of the taxing problem will only result in ruin to themselves.

TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS.

We are receiving many letters containing contributions for publication in the BLADE, as well as making various propositions of a literary character. For the benefit of all, we ask attention to the following:

We have all the paid contributors that we desire, and that we can possibly use.

We do not wish to arrange for the publication of a series of articles upon any subject.

We do not wish to arrange for descriptive letters from any portion of the country for the WEEKLY BLADE.

We do not wish to secure the services of paid correspondents for the WEEKLY BLADE in any section.

We do not wish to purchase any serial stories.

The BLADE does not pay for volunteer contributions; hence, it is useless to send us articles for which remuneration is expected.

We cannot send the BLADE in return for contributions, as is frequently requested.

We have very little use for poetry. We receive from five to a dozen poems every day in the year. We can use only two or three each week. Therefore we are compelled to reject by far the greater number sent us. We wish only poems of 30 lines or less; so, if you must and will send poetry—cut it short!

We will be glad at any time to receive contributions to the Household, Young Folks, Camp Fire, Farm and other departments of the BLADE. Let us remind you, however, and it is of no use to send us articles on any subject for which you desire pay.

If you write *anything* for publication when you send a subscription, or orders for cartoons or books, or a letter about the sewing machine, write your contribution on a *separate* sheet from that which has your business letter on it, and give your name and address in full *on both sheets*. The business letter goes to the counting-room, the contribution to the editorial room; hence they *must* be separate.

Write only on one side of the paper, with good black or violet ink, in clear, plain writing, with plenty of room between the lines, and without interlineations.

We won't take the trouble to read stuff written in pencil, or on wrapping paper, or on both sides.

If you wish your article sent back in case we do not care to use it, FULL postage must accompany it.

We cannot hold it and notify you. If an article is rejected, it goes at once into the waste-basket, unless postage enough accompanies it for its return.

Don't roll manuscript: fold it full width, use a large envelope, and never fold crosswise.

THE BLADE SEWING MACHINE.

If you contemplate purchasing a Sewing Machine this winter, order the Blade Machine, at once, that you may be sure of getting it in time. It gives absolute satisfaction, and we sell it for $18, with the WEEKLY BLADE, one year. It is the best and cheapest reliable Machine on the market. Order at once, and save money.

PAYING REBEL CLAIMS.

A bill was gotten through the national House of Representatives on last Friday to pay the McMinnville & Manchester railroad, an obscure line in Tennessee, the sum of $246,880 out of the public treasury for damages sustained by the road during the war. The claim is a fraudulent one, for the money is asked on the plea that the road was destroyed by the Union army during the war. The facts, however, as stated by army men in Washington, are that when the Union army reached the road it was found that the rebel army had torn up the tracks and taken the rails away. SHERMAN'S army rebuilt it, and the rebel cavalry leader, Gen. WHEELER, of Alabama now a Representative in Congress, destroyed the line a second time. Gen. GROSVENOR, of Ohio, Representative in the House from the Athens district, was in the advance of the Union army when the road was reached, and in a speech in the House declared that destruction had preceded them and they had to rebuild the whole track.

Should this claim be paid, that action would open the door for a shoal of similar ones, and the South would be recouped for all its losses during the war out of the national treasury. It would take a greater sum to pay off these rebel claims than our entire national debt at the close of hostilities. That the bill should pass at all is a matter of surprise; and it is simply astounding that thirty-nine Republicans should have voted for it. It had but one majority, even then. The Senate should defeat the measure promptly. The way should be effectually blocked against the payment of such claims.

SPECIAL TERMS TO AGENTS.

If you want to make your winter's pocket money write us for our special terms to agents. We shall pay more liberally for work for the BLADE this winter than any paper in the country. Drop a postal card asking for terms, and it will pay you.

THE story of the attempted purchase of the Louisiana returning board in 1876 has recently been revived, with the statement that the members of the board were ready to sell their votes to Tilden, but that the money was not produced when promised and the bargain fell through. This was given as coming from

RAMBLER'S NOTE-BOOK.

A Summer Vacation in Norway—An Evening in a Norwegian Home—How the Time Flew by on the Wings of Pleasure.

TENTH NOTE.

The simple burial services of that poor Norwegian peasant seemed to make a great impression on all three of us, for as we left the church yard and again took up our walk along the road that led to the mountain, there was not a word said. Each was wrapped in his own reflections and walked silently along, seemingly oblivious to the beauty of the scene round him.

Gordon was the first to break silence

"Death is a terrible thing under any circumstances and I think the funeral we have just seen was the most depressing one I ever attended. That little old sexton was the very incarnation, to me, of everything that is horrible. And how suggestive too, was the terribly grim manner in which he wielded his scythe and mowed down the long grass, as though he were indeed Death himself ravaging his victims. And the Aden now, if taking care of the departed stand around and see the grave dug that is to take from them forever the one whom they love so well."

"That was a trifle hard, it must be confessed," said Adams. "It is sad enough to have this final parting when everything has been done, by means of flowers and plants, to rob the grave of its terrors—but deprive it of these consolations as it was the case just now it is doubly so. But come, what is the use of being so depressed and cast down by an incident that we should look upon more in the light of an experience, unpleasant, but not without its uses, of travel in a foreign country. We certainly have enough of the beautiful on either side of us to drive away the feelings of gloom that may have been occasioned by that painful burial service."

Adams was right. The country through which we were walking was as beautiful as a dream. On one hand there was a long low plateau sloping gradually down to the lake, which was dotted with islands, so that the opposite shores was nearly hidden from sight, while the other hand the meadow lands stretched away to the foot of the mountains ahead of us, up which the hard white road wound by easy stages. Looking back from the gentle eminence we had attained could be seen the charming little village of Vestnaess, connected by the long wooden bridge with Sylte on the other side of the long strait that joined the fjord and lake, each of which swept away on either side as far as the eye could reach.

We were delighted with the prospect of the walk and the treat in store when we should have reached the summit of the four hills toward which we were going. There was sure to be a fine view from that point of vantage, a view embracing the country round about for miles and miles. But alas, for the fickleness of Norwegian climate. Scarce had we begun the sharp upward climb than great clouds came tumbling up from over the mountain tops, and Adams said, in a tone of voice that left no room for doubt upon the subject, that if we were not anxious for a thorough drenching we had better lose no time in seeking the shelter of the hotel. The wind came up at the same time, and soon there was every indication of a fierce storm such as we had been treated to by the fury that made us all rejoice that we had not attempted to row over to Vebiungsnaess in an open boat. Eight hours in such a gale would have been anything but pleasant.

Just as we reached the house the rain came down in torrents.

"That does away with any evening stroll with the young ladies," muttered Gordon, "and I was particularly desirous of having the beauties of Vestnaess pointed out to me by so charming a guide."

The young lady for whom this was intended, laughed gently, and said that perhaps we would find an evening spent in the home circle with her father's family not altogether unpleasant, to which, of course, Gordon replied that no evening could be unpleasant, spent in the company of such charming people as those whom it was our good fortune to meet on this never to be forgotten occasion. In fact, he was almost glad that the rain had come to keep us indoors, so that we might have the pleasure of becoming better acquainted with Norway's fairest and most charming daughters.

A most delightful evening it was. The old people, not being able to speak a word of English, were compelled to submit to the attentions of the student, who sat by their side and told them fairy tales of his adventures by sea and land, while the two young ladies were greatly interested in Gordon's recital of the manners and customs of England. They had formed their impressions of the people of that country from the few tourists they had seen at Vestnaess, and Gordon went to an infinite pains to convince them that the English people were not to be judged by the samples that had left the place just as we were arriving.

Adams took occasion to say to the girls, when he could not be overheard, that Gordon was a fair specimen of the average Englishman, whereupon they both clapped their hands with delight, and said that hereafter they should be more pleased with Englishmen than ever. And if they were more than delighted when Gordon went to the piano in one corner of the large sitting room and played a number of pretty ballads. When he had finished, the student took his place and played some Norwegian dance music. That started the young ladies. They insisted upon having a dance and had certainly the old mother was drawn from her cosy corner and installed at the piano. Her aged fingers had not forgotten their cunning, for she played like a woman of thirty. The party stood on no formality. The student whirled off with the daughter of the house, and the young son inveigled the father into a dance, the first I'll be bound, that he had taken part in for many a year.

They danced like mad up and down the room, with now a whirl and then a glide—losing hold and taking a balancing step away from each other, then coming quickly together for another whirl and a glide. Faster and faster went the music, and faster went the dancers till, with a crash the music ceased and the four panting dancers, laughing with joy, sank exhausted in their seats.

So the evening sped merrily on, with dance and song and laugh and jest, till the old clock in the corner struck the hour of midnight and warned us that our pleasant evening was over. ROBINSON LOCKE.

BLADELETS.

Mr. Beecher is the Prohibitionist leader of South Carolina.

Gen. Neal Dow has paid the $20,000 for which he was responsible as bondsman of W. E. Gould, the defaulting cashier.

Sen. Vest is the twentieth member of the Upper House of Congress to purchase a house in Washington. It cost him $16,000.

Lewis H. Stanton, the only surviving son of Edwin M. Stanton, is on a visit to Washington. His home is in Minnesota, where he has a stock farm, and where he is devoting his leisure to the work of writing a biography of his father.

It is said of one fashionable young man that he never paid anything but a compliment.

In the readjustment of the boundary between Rhode Island and Connecticut, the former gained two feet and a half of territory. This is a big thing for Rhode Island.

No lawyer is a member of the Montana territorial council.

A clam dug out at Clinton, Conn., held two pearls worth $20.

Sidney, Neb., has an ornamental high school with one pupil.

The largest squash of the season is reported at Lampoc, Cal. It weighs 251 pounds.

In the Lynn (Mass.) shops a shoe is turned out in forty minutes, having passed through forty pairs of hands.

It is said that one of the curious results of the Charleston earthquake is the loss of animals from terror. Many of the mileh cows have gone dry since the earthquake in the country about Charleston, and one man lost seven horses from the effects of terror.

—Travel and Adventure will be largely represented in the coming volume of *The Youth's Companion* by such popular writers as Lieut. Schwatka, C. F. Holder, Wm. T. Hornaday, the Hon. S. S. Cox, Col. T. W. Knox, Col. W. H. Gilder, and Lieut. Shufeldt.

The Experience of the Quail Eaters.

CHICAGO, Dec. 21.—Ten days before Mann, the Minneapolis quail-eater, started in on his task to eat 30 birds in 30 days for a bet of $1,000, Charles Miller commenced the same business on another wager. Yesterday Miller attacked his 28th bird. He had been complaining for the past five days that he could not sleep at night, and that he seemed to have a load of stones on his chest. He felt well enough when he went down to his quail, ate a little bread and butter and potatoes, and then attacked the bird. After two bites Miller was taken violently ill, vomiting and being utterly unable to go on with the task. A hack was sent for, and he was taken to a doctor's and from thence to his home. No serious results are looked for, and he will probably be all right in a day or two. Mann ate his 18th quail last night, and is still feeling well.

—Bee keepers take notice. E. T. Lewis & Co. of Toledo, Ohio, will mail you a 32 page illustrated catalogue free, if you will send them your address.

THE ONLY SURVIVOR

Of the Hayes' Arctic Expedition.

Mr. S. J. McCormick, the person alluded to above, and who is now U. S. Deputy Mineral Surveyor, says: "For years I suffered from severe pains in the nip joint and back bone, so as to deprive me of all power. The pain was terrible, and resembled more than anything else,

The Thrust of a Knife

in the parts, and then turning it around. Physicians said I had Stone in the Bladder and Gravel in the Kidneys but could give me no relief. I saw a paragraph in the N. Y. Sun regarding the value of Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy in this class of complaints, and I tried it. After using it for a short time I am glad to say I am completely cured, and feel better than I have for years. Words fail to express what I suffered before Dr. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy at hand I have

No Fear of Kidney Disorders.

If parties afflicted as I have been will only try this medicine they will then appreciate it as I do, and thank him for the great boon he has given to mankind. With great pleasure I give Dr. Kennedy permission to refer to my case, and shall do all in my power to recommend his medicine.

"J. McCORMICK, Bill's Station, Idaho."

I used Dr. S. Kennedy's Favorite Remedy for Kidney disfunction, and, I am glad to say, with excellent results. Having the utmost confidence in this medicine, I cheerfully recommend it to others afflicted in the same way.—DANIEL F. EARLY, Newburgh, N. Y.

DR. D. KENNEDY'S FAVORITE REMEDY,

Rondout, N. Y. All Druggists. $1; 6 for $5.

It is positively stated that the New York and New England railroad will be managed by A. L. Hopkins, formerly identified with the Wabash system.

Publishers' Column.

The Most Liberal Offer Ever Made.

A Good Watch for an Hour's Work.

Any person—man, woman, boy or girl—who will raise a club of TEN for the WEEKLY BLADE, at its lowest and only price, One Dollar each, will receive a warranted Waterbury Watch, free, by mail.

To secure this valuable premium, the ten names must be sent in at one time, with the price, $10. No other terms will be regarded.

Any one can raise a club of Ten for the WEEKLY BLADE anywhere, in a very little time. It is easy to get subscribers for the BLADE, for everybody ought to have it, and 200,000 families will have it this winter.

Take hold at once and get your watch. We will mail them, in every case, the day we receive the club.

We warrant every watch we send. There is no way in which a reliable time-piece can be so easily obtained.

A warranted watch for Ten yearly subscribers to the WEEKLY BLADE.

IN THE MATTER OF SEWING MACHINES.

Thousands of the readers of the BLADE will buy a sewing machine this winter. What one will you buy? There are many good ones and many bad ones, some excellent for certain kinds of work, and good for nothing else, and so on. But all of them are sold at a high price, higher than they should be, and in most cases too high for the purse of the average woman.

The cause of these high prices is easily understood. It results from the method of selling. The manufacturer makes a state agent for his machine, who opens an expensive office in a large city, and he must have an enormous salary or large commissions to live at all. The state agent makes district agents, and so between the manufacturer and the farmer's wife there are three commissions or profits, all of which the farmer's wife pays. This is why the cheapest machine, sold on that plan, cannot be sold for less than $35.

The BLADE does business in quite another way. The BLADE manufactures the best machine on the market. It is a machine built upon an entirely new principle, and well built. There is no trouble about the quality of the machine. Thousands of them are in use, and they give absolute satisfaction. (Read the two statements in advertisement on 5th page.) Now, this splendid machine, better for work and better in finish, than any now sold, the BLADE now sells for $18, and throws in the WEEKLY BLADE for one year. How can it be done? As easily as falling off a log. The BLADE Company employs no agents, but the machine passes directly from its own factory to the house of the purchaser. There are no agents between us and you, who have to be paid; there are no leeches to take the blood out of you. We want a small profit and get it, and you have all the rest.

It was to break the monopoly that the BLADE commenced this business, and it has succeeded.

Now what we want to say is this. If you want a machine that you may depend upon, and want it at a price that you can afford, send $18 to the BLADE, Toledo, Ohio, and you will receive one as soon as steam can carry it, and you will receive in addition, the BLADE one year. Moreover, if you want one this winter, make your order now. We shall be overrun next month with orders, and you may be delayed.

Remit now, and get your machine in time.

Address all letters to "BLADE," Toledo, Ohio.

THE BLADE'S PORTRAIT GALLERY.

We have published seven different portraits, which we offer to our readers at a price that will enable all to decorate their homes cheaply and well, viz:—

MILITARY HEROES—Grant, Sherman and Sheridan.

RELIGIOUS HEROES—John Wesley, Charles Wesley, Martin Luther and John Calvin.

These portraits are all printed upon heavy plate paper, size 19 by 24 inches, just the size for framing for the parlor or sitting room, and good enough for any house in the land. They are all exquisite works of art, and are certain to give satisfaction. We pack them securely in pasteboard tubes and send them postpaid at the following prices:

Any one portrait	$ 25
The four divines	65
The three generals	50
The entire set of seven	1 00

Agents can do a good thing for themselves selling these pictures. Special rates made known upon application. Address BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

Temperance Cartoons—To Temperance Workers and Organizations.

We have published for as near gratuitous circulation as possible, five striking cartoons, illustrating the working of Rum as opposed to Temperance, of which millions have been sold all over the United States. They are intended to instruct the people through the eye. They are as follows:

No. 1.—Do you see any good coming out of it?

No. 2.—Which way would you have your Boy Go?

No. 3.—Which way would you have your Girl Go?

No. 4.—In which village would you bring up your Children?

No. 5.—This Farmer never drank Whisky. This Farmer drinks all he can get.

These pictures are the most effective instructors that have ever been published. They contrast the life of the drunkard and sober man, in property, wife and children, so sharply that he who runs may read, and understand as well. Millions of them have been pasted up in shops, on fences and dead walls, where they may be seen of men, and millions more should be.

We have made a price on these cartoons, which barely covers the cost of paper and postage:

Three copies of either	6 cents.
Six copies	10 cents.
Twenty-five copies	30 cents.
One Hundred copies	One dollar.

This gives no profit, the price covering only cost of printing, paper and postage. We contribute wrapping-paper and labor.

Send in your orders immediately, and paste them up where they will do the most good.

BUNYAN'S PILGRIM'S PROGRESS.

This magnificent steel engraving has sold more than any picture we have published. It is a magnificent work of art, and worthy any home. It is a steel engraving, engraved by John Andrew for the New England Congregational Society, at a cost of $20,000. It is a complete illustration of Bunyan's immortal work, representing 100 of the scenes therein. The picture was originally sold at $1,000, and cannot be bought in art stores to-day for less. We send it to any address securely packed and post-paid for $1.25, or the picture and the BLADE one year for $2.00. It is a splendid work of art and should be in every home.

PERSONAL AND FASHIONABLE.

Sherman's Plan for Continuing National Banks.

CLARINDA, Iowa, Dec. 11.—EDITOR BLADE:—The last BLADE says: "Sen. Sherman is in favor of allowing national banks to do business on 4½ per cent. bonds at their face value." This may be true, and is good so far as it goes, but the BLADE further says: "thus increasing the circulation about $30,000,000." I think Sen. Sherman is too wise to claim an increase of circulation on any such basis as this. Under the present banking law, a firm with $100,000 capital might purchase $100,000 of 3 per cent. bonds, on which they are allowed to issue $90,000 of national currency. With the same $100,000 they could only buy about $80,000 of 4½ per cent. bonds, on which at their face value they could only issue $80,000 in currency. We Western people are opposed to this kind of increase that would change the circulation from $90,000 to $80,000.

I see the president advises reducing the revenues, because the bonds subject to call are so nearly all paid. Some advocate continuing the taxes and distributing all surplus back to the states for support of schools. If this last proposition is constitutional, why would it not be wise to loan this surplus to the people through the several states, making the states responsible to the general government for the principal loaned, together with 4½ per cent. as interest, any interest collected above the 4½ per cent. to be apportioned to the school funds in the state where loaned?

All money thus loaned could when collected be applied to pay bonds when subject to call and loaning it would keep it in circulation without burdening the people. —R. H. LYMER.

An Iowa Congressman.

EDITOR BLADE:—I am a reader of the BLADE. I saw in the last issue that Iowa had one Democratic Representative who is thoroughly disgusted. I am well acquainted with Mr. Ben. T. Frederick, and think that instead of his "being disgusted" the people of his district were disgusted with him. Mr. F. was elected by the "rum power," and I know that the only speech he ever made was, "Come, boys, let us have something to drink!"—SUBSCRIBER, Orleans, Harlan Co., Neb.

An Arkansas Town Fired by Incendiaries.

LITTLE ROCK, Dec. 21.—News is received from Vilonia, an inland town of Faulkner county, this state, to the effect that about three o'clock yesterday morning every business house in the town was simultaneously set on fire, and burned to the ground, including the barn, cribs and outhouses of Messrs. George and Thomas Harris, residing about a half a mile from Vilonia. Nothing at all was saved, and the Harris brothers lost great quantities of corn, fodder, cotton seed, hay, etc., they being considered the wealthiest farmers in the county. Total loss about $150,000. No one yet has been arrested, but suspicion points to one or two suspicious characters.

A Lynching Bee in Georgia.

TOCCOA, Ga., Dec. 21.—The reported burning of Frank Sanders, the murderer of three members of the Swilling family, proved to be incorrect, as he was returned to jail. Yesterday, however, a party of 125 men surrounded the jail at an early hour, battered down the door, and took Sanders to a convenient tree, where they swung him up.

It has developed since, that Mrs. Rachael Bailey, invited in the neighborhood, was an accomplice in the crimes, and that it was the design of herself and Sanders to get married with the money thus gained. The woman has been put in jail and there are fears of another lynching.

John Shearer, postmaster at Red House, Ky., was killed by two sons of Taylor Rice, Monday night. Rice had left his wife—the mother of eleven children—because he suspected her of being too intimate with Shearer. All parties are highly respected in the community.

AGENTS WANTED

For ALLAN PINKERTON'S Thrilling and Startling Book, **30 Years a Detective.** The only book of its kind. Full of illustrations, low in price, *easy to sell.* Descriptive circulars and *terms to agents sent free.* G. W. DILLINGHAM, Publisher, New York.

FACE, HANDS, FEET, and all their imperfections, including Facial Development, Hair and Scalp, Superfluous Hair, Birth Marks, Moles, Warts, Moth, Freckles, Red Nose, Blackheads, Scars, Pitting and their treatment. Send 10c. for book of 50 pages, 4th edition. Dr. J. H. Woodbury, 27 N. Pearl St., Albany, N.Y., Est'd 1870.

$100 by mail, $1. Lock Box 19, Wareham, Mass.

PILES cured in 3 days. Box mailed for $1. Particulars, 2c. Box 22, Carrollton, Mo.

100 Fancy Scrap Pictures, no two alike, and 4 Gilt Cards, 10c. SCRAP BOOK CO., Nassau, N. Y.

SALESMEN Wanted to sell Nursery stock. Good wages paid. Outfit free. For particulars address CHAS. H. CHASE, 11 East Park, Rochester, N. Y.

SEED CORN.—Farmers should send at once for the Improved Sleeper Corn; is well recommended for all farmers. Sent out by mail on receipt of prices: 1 lb., $1, postpaid; ½ lb., 60 cts.; ¼ lb., 35 cts. This is no humbug. Address J. B. Elliott, New Haven, Mason Co., W. Va.

Free Perfumery—An elegant casket of perfume will be sent to you for 15 cts. to cover postage and packing. A perfect fragrance. Original price $3.50. Present price, postpaid by mail, $1.25, or with BLADE one year, $2.25.

Look! Look! Look! Any lady can be her own physician for all Female Diseases. Price of this wonderful medicine, with full instructions for making it $3.5. Madame Hilton, Box 5, Ashland, Mass.

AGENTS WANTED

To canvass for the sale of Nursery Stock. Good wages. Steady work. Write for terms, giving age and references. Eugene Covey, Nurseryman, Penfield, N. Y.

OPIUM AND MORPHINE HABIT Cured without pain or inconvenience to business. Send for book on Opium Eating and Morphine Habit. DR. J. C. HOFFMAN, 1120 E. Van Buren St., Chicago.

MANLY VIGOR lost through errors or excesses, nervousness, premature decay, may be perfectly regained by the new Complete Recreal Pearls. Send for our new illustrated "Guide to Health," Absolute secrecy. Address the Craigie Medical Clinic, 35 Nassau st., New York.

Announcement for 1887.

LIPPINCOTT'S MAGAZINE will contain a complete novel (not novelette) in every number, besides usual miscellaneous matter. Novels by well-known authors, John Habberton, Julian Hawthorne, Mrs. Frances H. Burnett, Mrs. L. C. Lillie, M. G. McClelland, and others.

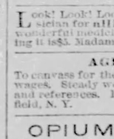
—January number, "SINFIRE," complete novel by Julian Hawthorne, and a satirical poem by Rose Elizabeth Cleveland. $3.00 per annum. Sample copy, 25 cents.

J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia.

"THE LEE BOOK," a companion to the "Grant Book." The personal memoirs of R. E. Lee, edited by his former military secretary, Gen. A. L. Long, and embracing much material of a private and personal nature never before published. Agents are reporting great sales of this book. Sparkes in day. Large octavo volume, fully illustrated with steel plates, etc., containing the maps used by Lee in his campaigns, together with a large map of the entire seat of war, from Gettysburg to Appomattox. Over 700 pages. Bound in cloth, price, $3.75.

Agents wanted who can sell it. On application, to every purchaser of the "Grant Book."

J. M. STODDART & COMPANY, Publishers, 122 DUANE STREET, NEW YORK.



ARTESIAN WELL ENCYCLOPEDIA. Illustrates all the tools and machinery used in the art of Well-Boring. 500 feet has been sunk in 10 hours. Diamond pointed Rock drills. Prospecting Machinery and all matters of appliances for pumping Artesian Wells. We are the largest manufacturers in this line. Book sent 3 cents for postage.

The American Well Works, Aurora, Ill., U. S. A.

It is impossible to overestimate the value of warm feet at this season of the year. Thousands of valuable lives are sacrificed every winter in consequence of damp, cold feet. Cold feet lay the foundation for Pulmonary Diseases, so fatal to the people of our land. Could we place the world below the wonderfully beneficial **our Magnetic Foot Batteries** are for keeping up a warm, genial glow through the feet and limbs, none would be without them. These Insoles warm the whole body, keep the vital forces up, magnetize the iron in the blood, and cause a feeling of warmth and comfort in the whole body. If no other result was produced than to **insulate** the body from the wet, cold earth, the Insoles would be invaluable. In many cases the Insoles alone will cure Rheumatism, Neuralgia, and Swelling of the Limbs. $1 a pair, or three pairs for $2, to any address by mail. Send stamps or currency in letter, stating size of boot or shoe, and we will send free by mail to any part of the world. **Send for our book, "A PLAIN ROAD TO HEALTH."** Free to any address.

CHICAGO MAGNETIC SHIELD CO., No. 6 Central Music Hall, Chicago, Ill.

L. S. L.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

"We do hereby certify that we supervise the arrangements for all the Monthly and Quarterly Drawings of The Louisiana State Lottery Company, and in person manage and control the Drawings themselves, and that the same are conducted with honesty, fairness, and in good faith toward all parties, and we authorize the Company to use this certificate, with fac-similes of our signatures attached in its advertisements."

G. T. Beauregard
A. Early
Commissioners.

We, the undersigned Banks and Bankers will pay all Prizes drawn in the Louisiana State Lotteries which may be presented at our counters.

J. H. OGLESBY, Pres. Louisiana Nat'l Bank.
J. W. KILBRETH, Pres. State Nat'l Bk.
A. BALDWIN, Pres. New Orleans Nat'l Bank.

UNPRECEDENTED ATTRACTION!
Over Half a Million Distributed
LOUISIANA STATE LOTTERY CO.

Incorporated in 1868 for 25 years by the Legislature for Educational and Charitable purposes—with a capital of $1,000,000—to which a reserve fund of over $550,000 has since been added.

By an overwhelming popular vote its franchise was made a part of the present State Constitution adopted December 2d, A. D., 1879.

The only Lottery ever voted on and endorsed by the people of any State.

It never scales or postpones.

Its Grand Single Number Drawings take place monthly, and the Semi-Annual Drawings regularly every six months (June and December).

A SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO WIN A FORTUNE. FIRST GRAND DRAWING, CLASS A, IN THE ACADEMY OF MUSIC, NEW ORLEANS, TUESDAY, January 11, 1887
—200th Monthly Drawing.

CAPITAL PRIZE, $150,000.

Notice.—Tickets are Ten Dollars only. Halves, $5. Fifths, $2. Tenths, $1.

LIST OF PRIZES.

1 CAPITAL PRIZE OF	$150,000	$150,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	50,000	50,000
1 GRAND PRIZE OF	20,000	20,000
2 LARGE PRIZES OF	10,000	20,000
4 LARGE PRIZES OF	5,000	20,000
20 PRIZES OF	1,000	20,000
50 "	500	25,000
100 "	200	20,000
200 "	100	20,000
500 "	50	25,000
1,000 "	50	50,000

APPROXIMATION PRIZES.

100	Approximation Prizes of	$300	$ 30,000
100	" "	200	20,000
100	" "	100	10,000
2,179	Prizes, amounting to		$335,000

Application for rates to clubs should be made only to the office of the Company in New Orleans.

For further information write clearly, giving full address. POSTAL NOTES, Express Money Orders or New York Exchange in ordinary letter. Currency by Express (at our expense) addressed

M. A. DAUPHIN, New Orleans, La.
or M. A. DAUPHIN, Washington, D. C.

Make P. O. Money Orders payable and address Registered Letters to NEW ORLEANS NATIONAL BANK, New Orleans, La.

REMEMBER That the presence of Generals Beauregard and Early, who are in charge of the drawings, is a guarantee of absolute fairness and integrity, that the chances are all equal, and that no one can possibly prearrange the numbers will draw a Prize. All parties therefore advertising to guarantee Prizes in this Lottery, or holding out any other impossible inducements, are swindlers, and only aim to deceive and defraud the unwary.

THE BEST

BOOKS

For the Winter.

The following books are of our own publication and give a variety of pleasant reading and valuable information that no family should be without. We make prices less than half of book store prices, and we prepay postage to your very door. Whether for family reading or presents to your friends, every reader of the BLADE should order a copy of each. Order one copy first, to see how much we give for the money, after which you will be sure to order the whole list:

ANDERSONVILLE:

A Story of Southern Prisons.

This book by John McElroy, who was 18 months in Andersonville and other Southern prisons, has had a sale enjoyed by but very few. It is a record of the author's terrible experience in those hells upon earth, and is written in a style that is absolutely fascinating. It is the only true record of the sufferings endured by our soldiers, in the military prisons. Regular price, $3. We now send it by mail for $1.25. A new edition just out. Every soldier and every soldier's son should read this wonderful book.

NASBY IN EXILE.

The travels of D. R. Locke in Europe, one of the most entertaining books of travel ever written. Profusely illustrated; 320 pages. Original price $2.50. Present price, postpaid by mail, $1.25, or with BLADE one year, $2.25.

OLD DR. CARLIN'S RECIPES,

the best book of recipes and the most reliable ever printed. It has always sold for $2.00. Price now postpaid by mail, $2.00, or with BLADE one year, $2.25.

HEALTH and BEAUTY,

by Miss Emily S. Bouton. There is no more valuable book ever written for women and girls. It contains plain and reliable directions for attaining and retaining health and beauty, and is indispensable. Price, $1.00, postpaid by mail, or with BLADE one year, $1.85.

SOCIAL ETIQUETTE,

another book for the young of both sexes, by the same author. All the forms and observances of good society, with the reasons for and the philosophy thereof, are plainly stated. Every young person should have this book, as well as a great many old ones. Price, $1.00, postpaid by mail, or with BLADE one year, $1.85.

BLADE, Toledo, O.

THE WATERBURY

"Nasby Watch,"

During the past year we have mailed a great many thousands of the famous

WATERBURY WATCHES

to our patrons, and they have almost unanimously given satisfaction.

Out of the enormous number mailed only a very small percentage have been found faulty, and as those were immediately sent back to us and either put in order or new ones sent, there has been practically no complaint.

The Waterbury Company warrant to us every watch we send; and therefore if one here and there does not perform according to guarantee, it is immediately replaced by one that will.

In making 1,500 a day of course there will be occasionally one that gets injured in going through the mails, but these are immediately made good.

There is less complaint about the Waterbury Watch than there is of any watch in the world.

As the manufacturers warrant them to us, we warrant them to our patrons. Every faulty watch is made good as soon as it can be got around in the mails.

The price of the Waterbury Watch is always and everywhere $3.50. They can not be bought anywhere for less. We do this: The WEEKLY BLADE one year and the Waterbury Watch, $3.50. Which is to say you get the BLADE at its price and the batch for a dollar less than its price, or the Watch at its price and the BLADE for nothing. We are making you a present of a dollar in either event, and you are getting the best family paper in the world and the best time piece.

Enclose $3.50 to

BLADE, Toledo, O.

and secure one of these superb Watches and the BLADE for one year.

BIG PAY for LITTLE WORK!

Every Friend of the Blade Should Read this Carefully

$2,000.00!

To Be Given Away in Premiums!

WHO WILL GET THEM?

The Blade Company wants to Give Away $2,000 in Valuable Property, which it proposes to do in this way:

WE OFFER—

For the largest number of subscribers sent us by any one person between the date of this issue and the First of May, 1887, A FIRST CLASS STANDARD PIANO, worth..... $650 00

To the one sending us the next largest number, A CABINET ORGAN, worth..... 300 00

To the one sending the third largest number, A FIRST-CLASS SINGER SEWING MACHINE, worth..... 75 00

To the raisers of the next 25 largest, each A BLADE SEWING MACHINE, worth each..... 18 00

To the raisers of the next 50 largest clubs a choice of books, either "Andersonville" or "Nasby in Exile," worth each..... 3 50

To the raisers of the next 50 largest clubs, each a Waterbury Watch, worth each..... 3 50

To the raisers of the next 100 largest clubs a choice of the books "Social Etiquette," or "Health and Beauty," worth each..... 1 00

To the raisers of the next 100 largest clubs, a copy of the magnificent steel engraving, "Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress," worth $10 each, but sold by us at..... 1 00

Now, mind you, here are 328 premiums to be given 328 people, no matter how few subscribers they send in. We shall keep an accurate record of the names sent in by the contestants, and on the first day of May, 1887, the premiums will be awarded from our books. And please remember this: If you are going to send any clubs at all, you may as well try to reach one of these premiums. You get the commissions you are entitled to, in accordance with our terms to agents, which have been sent all who applied for them, just the same. These premiums are over and above commissions, and have nothing to do with them. If you send ten subscribers you retain your commission just the same, paying you for your work, anyhow, and if the ten should entitle you to one of these premiums you get the premium in addition to your commissions. Now note

CONDITIONS:

Those intending to contest for these premiums should so state in each letter containing names and remittances, and the number of subscribers they have sent, that they may know, as well as ourselves, how many they are getting.

These premiums are awarded for yearly subscribers, but in the competition four three months subscribers will be allowed to count for one yearly, and two six months for one yearly. In these cases our three and six months rates must be observed.

If you send single names your commissions to be retained will be at the rate made known in our postal card to agents. When you remit in clubs of ten your commission will be larger, as stated in our terms.

We will not accept checks upon country banks, as it costs a heavy percentage to collect. Currency in registered letters, drafts on New York or Chicago, postal orders and postal notes are what we take. Never send postage stamps if you can help it.

These premiums will not be allowed the regular Subscription agencies. They are only for those who make an effort to earn them by extending the circulation of the paper.

Who May Secure These Premiums?

Any one who has a little time to spend in the day time or evening—school-teachers, farmers' wives or daughters, boys or girls, mechanics' wives or daughters, any one who has a little energy, and some acquaintance in a neighborhood. THE WEEKLY BLADE is the easiest paper in the world to canvass for. It is the handsomest, best-printed, best-edited, largest, and best paper in the world. Everybody knows of it, it needs no talking about, no introduction, but if any one wants a paper and knows the difference between a good and bad article they will take the BLADE at once. It has the largest circulation of any Family Newspaper in the United States, which it has attained solely on its merits.

Drop a postal card asking us to send special terms to Agents.

SPECIMEN COPIES

Will be sent to you in any number that you want. You should have specimens to show, as the showing of a specimen to a newspaper reader settles it. Send for as many as you can use, and they will be promptly mailed to you.

IN CONCLUSION.

Go to work now at once, and earn one of these premiums. Of course only a few can secure the big premiums, but if you don't get any, you will get good pay for what work you do. At least one person at every postoffice can make a very acceptable addition to their pocket-money this winter by canvassing for the BLADE, the old, reliable family paper of the United States. And it is not going to take very much work to secure the big premiums, or one of the smaller ones anyhow.

What we are after is a circulation of 200,000 before May 1, 1887, and we are willing and anxious to pay for the work of getting it. Those who want to participate in this work will get all the aid from us that they want.

Get at the work at once. Address

BLADE COMPANY,
TOLEDO, OHIO.

THE BEST

SEWING MACHINE IN THE WORLD

IS THE

BLADE!

IT IS THE BEST,
IT IS THE CHEAPEST,
AND
IT IS THE HANDSOMEST.

Since the introduction of the Blade Machine, less than nine months ago several thousands have been placed in as many homes. That they have given perfect satisfaction the following testimonials, which are only two out o housnnds, abundantly show:

TALMO, Kan., June 4.
Machine came on yesterday in good shape. Well pleased with it. JACOB SHERWOOD.

URBANA, Ia., May 8.
I received the sewing machine the same day that I received the card asking for the date of money order sent. Like the looks very much. Think I am paid for waiting five months for it, which was probably on account of the strike. ETTA CHILD.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., June 3.
We received sewing machine all right. Mrs. Eastman says that she is very much pleased with it. Says it will do all you claim for it. SAM'L EASTMAN.

STONE'S PRAIRIE, ADAMS CO., ILL., June 1, 1886.
We have received our BLADE sewing machine some time ago, and have tried it thoroughly. It is all it was claimed to be and gives entire satisfaction. Our neighbors have been waiting to see if it was as good as the high priced machines so they could purchase one also. JOHN A. CUNNINGHAM.

NEW RICHMOND, O., June 3.
The machine came all O. K., and must say it is indeed a first-class machine. I am more than pleased with it, after so long waiting. I have a gem in it. Like it better all the time. MAMIE E. TOLLEY.

Excellence is of course the first point, but price is almost as important What good is the best machine if it is out of reach of the people? The Blade Machine was made to break the prices of this indispensible household adjunct. All of the monopoly machines sold through agents cost you from $35 upward. We sell direct to the people, a better machine, better finished and better in principle, for less than half. We give you the Blade Sewing Machine for $18, and send you the Weekly Blade one year.

If you want a machine order it at once. There will be a rush for it next month, and you should get in your order at once.

Remember the Blade Sewing Machine and the Weekly Blade One Year for $18.

The Machine is the best in the world. It is a new machine, upon an entirely new principle, and manufactured by ourselves in our own factory.

FULL SET OF ATTACHMENTS.

ADDRESS

BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

THE JEWEL SEAM RIPPER!

The Most Practical Instrument Ever Invented for Ripping Any Kind of Sewing
SIMPLE YET PERFECTLY EFFECTIVE.
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The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

COMMONPLACE PEOPLE.

They were talking about some one, a stranger in the place, and commenting upon her personal appearance and manners.

"What sort of a person is she," I asked.

"Oh! commonplace, entirely so," was the answer. "She would not interest you in the least. You know in these days, people must be able to do something besides the humdrum things that used to occupy women, if they want to attract any attention."

Is that true? I silently asked myself. Have the old-fashioned virtues of our mothers and grandmothers so faded out from the background of the life of to-day, as to have lost all of their beauty, so that one who possesses them alone is regarded only as utterly commonplace and without attractions? There was no mistaking the tone in which my inquiry had been answered, and had the subject of remark chanced to overhear it, her sensibilities would have been blunt indeed, had they not received a hurt which it would have been difficult to heal.

I had heard before of this "commonplace" woman and was curious to see her. The family had recently removed to the place, and into a good neighborhood, but she had not responded to the efforts of those around her to have her enter their social and literary life, as they had felt she ought to do, nor had she given any reason for the failure. Her whole time seemed to be absorbed by her home duties, to the exclusion of every other interest.

Later on, my curiosity was gratified. I saw a small, plainly dressed woman with nothing to mark her from the multitude. In that sense she was "commonplace." Nobody would have singled her out with any expectation of finding unusual intelligence or wit, nor would they have expected anything out of the common order in any way. She was exceedingly reticent and quiet in her manner, volunteering few remarks, and those never including anything belonging to her own personality. I soon found that the key to some of her unpopularity lay in the fact that she never entered into a discussion of her family matters in the slightest particular.

The time came when I learned something of the inner life of this "commonplace" woman. She had an invalid mother, almost helpless, and a sister who was half crazed by a sudden shock and great grief, and these two, in addition to the care of her family, she watched and tended day and night, with a tenderness that was never abated. Few knew or ever learned what the physical and mental tax upon her was, for she never complained, and a sort of sweet loyalty to her unfortunate sister made her shield her from the public as much as possible. Had wealth been hers, life even under those afflictions might have been made much easier, but her husband did only a moderate business, which demanded economy in order to educate their children and make both ends meet.

Of course, I did not learn all these facts at once; but when I did, and watched her as she went on her self-sacrificing way, saw how she crushed down her longings for much which entered into the lives of other women, smothered her desire for beautiful things until she had almost forgotten to wish for them, I wondered whether they who see "not with mortal eyes looked upon her as "commonplace."

Women have made wonderful progress within the last few years. They have scaled heights to which our grandmothers would have scarcely dared to raise their eyes. College doors have swung open to let them pass through, and they are going in, not one by one, but in numbers almost beyond the counting. Science no longer keeps an impenetrable front to their advances. They wield the artist's brush and pencil, and the poets pen with power and vivid meaning. The circle of their possibilities has widened until it includes remunerative industries and professions, which, within years that could be spanned by the memory of those yet in the full vigor of their maturity, belonged only to man's intellect and strength to attempt. Higher education for women, the liberty to use the brains Nature gave them in any way that shall count the most for themselves and for humanity has been made possible, and the result is a leaping forward, almost Minerva like, to the side of man, panoplied with a like intelligence for the life struggle. They are no longer, as a whole, handicapped in the race forward, and each year that passes makes their way onward easier.

In the pride and exultation which this change has brought, a danger lurks. It is that we may learn to forget or despise the purely home virtues, the self-denials and self sacrifices that are unaccompanied by some gift which has a brilliant outcome. In the almost universal hunger and thirst for doing, for trying the new paths opened, to exercise the powers which, under the compulsory force of traditionary customs have lain dormant, they who have no ambition outside of the domestic circle are esteemed humdrum and commonplace. Not often does it find expression in such savage onslaughts upon women by a woman as that of "Ouida" a few months ago, for only in coarse nature like her's could such a thought take root and make such rank growth, but yet it is visible in the tendency to speak depreciatingly of the purely domestic woman, who has not social position to win recognition, nor literary or artistic tastes to attract attention.

Many women who would be counted as "commonplace," live lives that are more heroic in their courage and self-abnegation in their devotion to duty while keeping fast hold of the door that shuts in their youthful hopes and aspirations all unfulfilled, and all clamoring for satisfaction, holding them back with unrelenting hand, though seeing the years slipping away forever into the past—than many of those renowned in song and story. It often takes more courage to live true to the homely duties of every-day existence, than to do some daring deed that will thrill the world with its telling. The tale of Grace Darling's heroism will set our pulses to throbbing and send the blood surging through the veins, while, within a stone's throw it may be, is one who faces, without flinching, daily trials, beside which, the surging waters would be heaven, and we do not dream that their experiences are other than commonplace. It is well perhaps, that we cannot see into the deeps of their sorrows, unless the power to aid were placed in our hands.

Women there are, and men too, who are essentially common-place. To them life means nothing more than to eat, drink and sleep. Selfish in their purposes, with no thoughts, no hopes, no aspirations that would lift them an inch above the common level, they go along from day to day and are interesting only to those of the same ilk. They do not grow mentally and morally, not because they are denied the opportunity to do so, but that they have neither the desire nor capacity to put forth the requisite effort. They do no positive evil. It is rather of the negative sort which comes from the lack of any influence for good. You and I know such people—for their number is not small—and we think their only use is to fill up the "chinks" in society.

Yes, there are "commonplace" men and women, but let us be careful how we give the word a signification it should not possess. The use of all the opportunities which lie in the pathway, devotion to home and the loved ones, the sacrifice of self to some duty that seems imperative, do not make a "commonplace" character in the real sense of the word, even though it all be done so quietly that only God and the angels know how much strength has been used in the doing. The heart of women may thrill with gladness because the possibilities for their sex have been so wonderfully multiplied, making so many crooked paths straight but it is well to remember, in the midst of their exultation, that the purely womanly virtues are still as potent for good and as worthy of sincere admiration, as in the days when the doors were shut against any advance into paths that had, for centuries, been only trodden by their brothers.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

Fancy Work and House Decoration.

Dinner Table Decoration.—Take a piece of linen a yard and a half in length and from 18 to 20 inches wide. Embroider or etch some appropriate motto in pretty lettering, having a running vine in colors passing in and out between the words. Trim it around with lace which has also had touches of color put in it by following some of the figures around in gay silks. Another center decoration is made by taking squares of Turkish work which can be purchased at the stores, and sewing them upon the white buck-ground. Finishing the edges with crazy stitches. For very elaborate affairs center pieces of silk and satin embroidered or painted are used, but those which are washable seem most appropriate at all times.

Pin Cushions of all sizes and shapes are made, and the more unique they are the better they please. An odd one was made of a half-dozen pieces of card board cut out, one in shape of a heart, another a diamond, another a circle, a fourth a star, a fifth a cross, and a sixth an anchor. These were covered first with flannel and then with gay colored satins, of different colors, the two sides of each being alike. Fasten each one to narrow ribbons with long floating bows. The ribbons are to be of unequal lengths and the ends fastened together so that the cushions will appear one above the other. Stick the edges full of pins. The pins must, none of them, be large.—ED.

For the lilies add to geranium lake twice the quantity of white and three or four drops of megilp. Mix the megilp and paint thoroughly together; then take up plenty of paint on the end of the brush. Put it down on the point of flower the same as you would the pen in Kensington work. But instead of drawing towards the body as in Kensington work, turn the brush, which is held in the right hand, over towards the left, so as to make a very stroke indeed, and terminate in the edge of petal or leaf. When you have gone entirely around edge of petal or leaf, take your brush and beginning in the center of each scallop, make a slanting stroke towards the center of petal or leaf. This is done all around, but on the petals the goods is left to form a shading right in the center of this lily design. To make this scallop, fresh paint must be taken up frequently on the brush.

For the leaves, stems and calyxes, two shades of green must be mixed. For one shade mix equal parts of zinober, emerald and chrome; for another, zinober, emerald and burnt yellow ochre, equal parts. The iridescent sparkling is sprinkled over highly as each petal or leaf is finished.

On the lily petals, more geranium lake may be added to make a brighter shade of pink on some petals. To every shade thus mixed, two parts of Megilp must be added; this renders the paint smooth, and also acts as a drier.

For the stamens, use chrome yellow, to which a mere pin point of burnt sienna has been added. The work should be allowed several days to dry.—MRS. E. S. L. THOMPSON, Winchester, Ind.

Cricket Stool.—People living where they can procure deer or buffalo antlers can make very pretty cricket stools by turning them bottom upward, the horns serving for the legs, and screwing a board about 10x14 inches to the base of the horns, then cover this board with a cushion covered with crazy patchwork, velvet or plush. Put some pretty crocheted trimmings round the edge, or finish at the two front corners with tassels. Many thanks to our dear editor and the good sisters for their good talks. They have helped me a great deal.—WYNTER, Wis.

Cheap Footstool.—Take 7 tin cans, place 6 in a circle and 1 in the center. Tie a string as tightly as possible around them. Now stuff with hay the cans, between them, and enough over the top to make a soft cushion. Cover with gay, flowered cretonne, and the bottom with paper muslin, so as to slide easily over the floor. I hope I have made this plain enough.—PANSY.

Knitting and Crocheting.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit p, purl or seam p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and 1, slip and knit; o, over; t, thread over; b, bind; cover; sl, slip; m, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; el ch st, close chain stitch; d e st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; cr tr st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o s st, open shell stitch; t, treble; sh c, short crochet.

Knit Skirt.—This pattern is large enough for a child 2 years old. It takes 2 skeins of Germantown yarn, and two fine ivory needles. There are two breadths of 96 stitches each. 1st and 3d rows. Knit plain. 2nd, 5th, 7th, 9th and 12th seam. 4th row—k 1—k o—k 2—o—k 1—sl 1—n—pass slip stitch over—k 1—o—k 1—o—k 1—o—k 4—slip 1—n—pass slip stitch, etc. 6th, 8th, 10th like 4th row. 11th and 13th rows knit plain. Repeat from fourth row three times. Then knit 2 and seam 2 for 36 rows or until as long as desired. For the back breadth (after the pattern rows are finished) knit and seam half of the work; then bind off and knit the other half of breadth. This makes the opening in the breadth. Some make a row of eyelets around the top, and run ribbon in to tie with, but a binding is more durable. It adds to the effect to use two colors, knitting the color of the skirt around bottom, then knit the pattern once through of white or some light shade, then the dark, and again the light shade, finishing the skirt with the dark shade.—MRS. J. C. MEINS, The Dalles, Wasco, Co., Ogn.

Knitted Zouave Jacket or Hug me Tight.—This jacket is knitted in plain rows back and forth like a garter, the first st always slipped to give a firm edge. No increase or decrease; commence with 36 stitches and knit 73 rows plain, and at the end of the 73d row pick up the 36 foundation stitches, making 72d now on needle; knit 70 rows now, for the back and on the 71st row cast off 36 stitches. Knit 73 rows with the remaining 36 for the right front, which, after being cast off, is so shaped that the cast off edges can be sewed together on wrong side. Crochet a pretty edge all around and close with 3 buttons and the inevitable ribbon bow, using the crochet edge for button holes. A quarter lb. Berlin wool for the body and any color that suits you for border. Use fine (small eye) needles.—"MRS. W."

Child's Skirt.—This is worked in ribbed crochet out of two shades of zephyr or Germantown. Begin at the lower edge with a chain a yard and a quarter in length, and divisible by 12, the number for each scallop. This is worked from right to left, as follows: 11 dc in each of the first 5 ch, 3 dc in the sixth ch, 5 dc in the next 5 ch, miss 2 ch, repeat from star and at end of row, to form the rib; turn the work and put needle at back of stitch in the preceding row; begin to decrease in the 30th row by missing one stitch in each scallop; fasten off at the 32d row and sew together at the back, leaving a placket hole; sew on binding or crochet two rows of double crochet and insert ribbon.—MRS. J. C. MEINS, The Dalles, Wahco, county, Oregon.

Child's Leggins.—Cast on 56 stitches. 1st row—k 2 tog—o—k 1—o—k 1—sl 1—n—pass sl st over—k 1—o—k 1—o—k 1—sl 1—k 2 tog—draw sl st over—repeat to end of row. The last stitch on and every pattern row must be preceded by thread over. 2d and all evbn rows purl, knit these two rows 8 times, then begin at 17th row and knit 10 ribs for the leg, narrowing at each end of every other rib until there are 45 stitches left on the needle; take 15 of these for the instep and 15 each side for the ankle. Leaving these for the ankle, continue knitting the instep, knitting 2 ribs; bind off loosely, then knit 2 ribs for the side, cast on 11 st for the toe and narrow at toe and heel, sew up the legging and place strap under the foot.—MRS. J. C. MEINS, The Dalles, Oregon.

Correspondence.

THE TRAINING OF CHILDREN—NO. 9.

We overteach and overrule,
We curb and we confine;
And post the mind to school too soon
To learn our narrow line.

But a large proportion of such persons were waifs. Many of those who have become nuisances against whom we must double-lock our doors, never knew of a father's guiding hand and tender counsel, a mother's prayers and all the restraining influences of home. The neck, perchance, was under the foot of a stranger, and the years of childhood passed in menial services too severe for their years, while the reward they received was unjust chidings and frowns and unmerited chastisement, which only tended to the hardening of the heart, the embittering of the spirit, and sent forth the man or woman into the world learned in evil, and unlearned in all good, to prey upon society. For those who have never known a guarded, happy childhood, jails and penitentiaries are erected; for the embittered in spirit the fool's cell is prepared. Children have rights that no one can deny them with impunity. They have a right to enjoy life and be happy, and woe to the parent, guardian or stranger who denies to the helpless child, that has nothing but what is given it, and knows nothing but that which it has been taught, what is due, and shadows unnecessarily the young life. Make the little ones happy and keep them so. But little effort in the right direction will do this. It is not a severe task that requires a great outlay of money or the spending of much valuable time, and to do it is a duty that their elders owe them. The orphan is not alone in his complaint of a want of sympathy through the earliest years of his life. No, not alone. Many, whose parents pass in good society, know of hardness, coldness and continual haunting fears that render them unhappy, and the children always kept in a state of wretchedness, are not those most likely to develop into amiable and lovely men and women. Often when observing the management of such in regard to the children entrusted to their care, one wonders if they have forgotten the joys and sorrows, hopes and fears of their childhood; if, in truth, a childhood was ever their's. In some cases it was not; and they are only pursuing the same unjust, dark course that was pursued towards them, and that made them what they are, coarse, heartless beings, who have never entered the strait gate, nor set their feet in the narrow way. Their elders should know that the sports of the children are innocent in themselves and properly conducted, but they should allow them all the light, air, sunshine, outdoor exercise of various kinds, and all the toys and implements of labor that they require. They delight sometimes in play work and should be indulged for while your little boy is hammering at his playhouse or toys he is learning at least to use his hands. If the little girl wishes to sew by all means encourage her in the effort, and give her the instruction necessary or desired.

The nation can better bear to see her rooms littered than meet the evils that may result to her child from rigid and arbitrary rules. And if the exercise of the lungs of the children at play annoys older persons join the children in their sports, or brace up their worn and wearied nerves by an excursion, on foot, through the fields, a gallop on horseback, or a cold bath, or something of the kind, for they have need of renewed health, and an accession of strength. "I cannot do for my children as I wish; I am poor." I hear parents say sometimes. If you cannot do as you wish you can do well, but those who went up and down the marble steps of a palace, and wrapped themselves in cider down, and drank from a golden cup; many of them have known of bitter privations. Children should, whatever their station in life, be taught to work with their hands, and to work skilfully; but no heavy burden of care or nature should be laid upon them, to bend the shoulders and warp the the spine; for a good physical development is worth more than gold.—MOSS ROSE.

CARE OF BIRDS.—I see in the BLADE of December 9, a request from MRS. Shaffer and yourself, for some one to write an article on the care of mocking birds and canaries.

I have a mocking bird that was taken from the nest with three others when only three weeks old. It knows no home but its cage, and is said to be the finest bird and singer in this place.

This is the way I take care of mine: I give him crackers softened in water, not a saturated one, but a dry cornmeal to pick in and he likes it better than wet. Once or twice a week I give him a piece of boiled potato, and once in a while some hard boiled egg. I keep a small dish of fine sand all the time where he can pick it. They are very fond of apple and it is good for them. In the summer time when I can get grasshoppers and flies, he has all he wants of them, and now I give him once or twice a week raw beef cut fine so he can swallow it. Screenings of wheat or hempseed is good for them. They must have nothing salt, fresh water every day to drink. The cage must be kept clean. They will not bathe as often as canaries. I let mine out two or three times a week in the dining room and give him a quart bowl of water, and he will make the water fly. He is a happy bird at all times, but when he can get out and fly around, and take his bath, his joy is full. He was two years old this summer. They need a large cage. Mine is 2½ feet long, 1 foot wide, 1½ feet high, and is none too large. I have a small flannel bag about ¼ inch wide and 1 inch long full of sulphur hanging in his cage that keeps away all vermin.

I have three canaries, two singers and a female. Feed them on hemp-seed and the mixed bird seed. Their food should be changed once in awhile. I give them soft crackers, softened bread, boiled potatoes, boiled eggs, apples, or anything they will eat. Clean the cage at least every other day. Give fresh water every day, and when I clean the cage I give them a channel to bathe in. They can't bathe. I let them out two or three times a week, and let them fly around until they get ready to go home. It does them good. I keep a sack of sulphur in their cage. Keep cuttle bone in cage and a little fine sand is good for them.—MRS. E. S. TUTHILL, Holden, Mo.

AN EXPLANATION.—As there are some who do not understand the C. L. S. C. I will endeavor to explain fully through the columns of the BLADE. The Chautauqua Literary and Scientific Circle is really an extended school. It is a course of reading and study in which it takes four years to graduate. Louis Miller, of Akron, O., is president, and Kate Kimball, of Plainfield, N. J., is secretary. The aim of the society is to promote habits of reading and study in art, history and science, in connection with the routine of daily life. The course of study for '86-87 is English history and literature, geology, astronomy, scientific readings from French and religious literature. No preliminary examination is required.

The members are required to fill out certain memoranda year after year and forward to the central office at Plainfield, N. J. To defray expenses an annual fee of 50 cents is required. The books and Chautauquan will cost from five to seven dollars per year. I have studied the course for three years, and would say to any who think of taking it up to do so by all means, as it is money well invested. For further particulars address MISS Kate Kimball, Plainfield, N. J.

Now, if the editor will permit, I will step into the school room for a few minutes. Will some of the teachers please write and give some good original plans of conducting grammar recitations?

I find that many recitations must be changed often to keep up the interest in this difficult study, and any help will be gladly received. A change from grammar to "influence" is rather abrupt but time is limited. That the teacher's influence over his pupils is very great, every teacher will at once admit, and I take it for granted you all walk in the same honorable paths you would have your pupils tread. But there is one influence I am afraid a few of our teachers are a little indifferent to, and that is the silent influence of neatness of dress. If a teacher is careless in regard to dress he will have unruly school, while on the other hand, if he is neat his school will take pride in following the good example. A lady teacher need not dress extravagantly to be neat, for a simple calico dress, with the addition of clean collar and cuffs is good enough; but wear better if you choose.

Now, sister "school-maams," do not hold up your hands in protestations against these insinuations of untidyness, for I am talking only to those few who have fallen into the bad habit of carelessness of dress in their school rooms.

If there are any of you who doubt, take notice of the schools you visit and see if it is not true.—PANSY OF '87.

Inquiries.

Will some one give practical information about making butter? I should also like to know all about taking care of milk.—MRS. L. M., Eastport, Me.

May I ask what the members of the HOUSEHOLD think of girls and women painting their faces and coloring their hair, beside other foolish things they think makes them pretty? Or is it out of order to discuss such subjects?—DAKOTA GIRL.

Will some reader of the HOUSEHOLD give a practical method of laundrying fine shirts, one which I can practice for a living?—A WASHERWOMAN.

This question has been answered several times in the HOUSEHOLD, but perhaps there are enough who would like to know to make it useful to repeat it. Let some one who has a practical knowlecge in the matter as a business write and tell the best, as well as the most economical, way of managing the matter.—ED.

Will some one of the HOUSEHOLD tell me where I can get a parrot that will talk?—A DAKOTA GIRL.

Will some kind reader of the BLADE please give directions for setting up quick dye for coloring blue without yeast.—EDIZ PURTEE.

I would like to have some of your readers tell me where I can get some specimens of coral and star fish for a cabinet, and something about the cost?—MRS. E. THOMPSON.

Will some one of the HOUSEHOLD who has music of any kind, old or new, send to one that can't afford to buy, but has an instrument and wants to learn more. Send to B. M., Beloit, Mitchell county, Kan.

Will some one tell a young mother how to make some pretty bibs for little babes, not for every day wear, but for nice?—L. L. C.

Would like M. E. Bond, of Louisville, Ind., answer me by letter if she got the box of plants I sent her in October? Would like Mr. Wesley, of Arkansas, to send me his address again and I will send him some plants. I have lost his letter. Would like to hear more from the sisters of the HOUSEHOLD on plant culture.—MRS. E. S. TUTHILL.

Will some one of the HOUSEHOLD tell me where I can get paper suitable for paper flowers and the price of the same, and also how to put up beef for summer use or pickle it for drying? Can any one tell me where I can get the book that gives the names of estates in England, the heirs of which are in this country?—A READER OF THE BLADE.

Will some kind reader of the BLADE please tell me how to make wax fruit?—BLANCH.

Will some one tell me how to take vinegar stains out of a white dress? Have washed in soap suds, laid it in the sun, and frozen it, but to no purpose. The vinegar turns dark after it has been drawn awhile. There is an iron faucet in the barrel.—MRS. FRANK B., Madison, O.

Would like to know whether a daughter is entitled to receive wages after the age of twenty-one, the same as a son if he stays at home and works for his parents. If a daughter remains at home and does household work, what wages could she expect to receive from her parents?—W. M. Y.

Answers to Inquiries.

We frequently receive requests for some recipe to be published again, as the paper in which it was contained is lost. In nine cases out of ten no clue is given as to the number of the issue in which it was printed. It is impossible to comply with such requests, strong as is our desire to oblige our friends, simply because we cannot command the necessary time to go through the files and find the particular one asked for. Then again, it is hardly fair to take up room with such repetitions, the need of which comes, usually, from carelessness.—ED.

Seeing a request in our last BLADE for a cure for baby's face, I will send mine, that cured my three months old baby: Get syrup of sarsaparilla, (can get it by the ounce or bottle.) Give a scant half teaspoonful three times a day, and grease lightly, once a day, with cotton ointment. Don't use other remedies, all to no effect. After trying this, please report and oblige a mother.

Please correct in recipe for preparing canvas, in the December 2 number for 1886, the following mistakes, viz: For sloth read cloth; for point in both instances read paint; for as the numbers read and the numbers.—L. M., Burlingame, Kans.

I am making a crazy quilt. Will you give some suitable as well as some pretty way to put the blocks together and how to finish the edge of the same when lined with quilted satin, and oblige?—NELIA.

Most of them are sewed together and then the seams covered by fancy stitches with bright colored embroidery silks. It is prettier to have this silk all one color. A band of plush around the sides and the whole finished with a large cord looks well. Plain silk, satin or velvet may be used instead of the plush.—ED.

I was just reading inquiries in the BLADE for something to cure sore hands. I will tell you what helps mine. While washing the hands make a lather with casteel soap and drop a drop of kerosene on them. Rub well and wipe, and while moist wet with vinegar and rub dry. I found it out by washing with kerosene, and while washing it grasshoppers and flies, be has all he wants of them, and now I give him once or twice a week raw beef cut fine so he can swallow it. Screenings of wheat or hempseed is good for them. They must have nothing salt, fresh water every day to drink. The cage must be kept clean. They will not bathe as often as canaries. I let mine out two or three times a week in the dining room and give him a quart bowl of water, and he will make the water fly. He is a happy bird at all times, but when he can get out and fly around, and take his bath, his joy is full. He was two years old this summer. They need a large cage. Mine is 2½ feet long, 1 foot wide, 1½ feet high, and is none too large. I have a small flannel bag about ¼ inch wide and 1 inch long full of sulphur hanging in his cage that keeps away all vermin.

I have three canaries, two singers and a female. Feed them on hemp-seed and the mixed bird seed. Their food should be changed once in awhile. I give them soft crackers, softened bread, boiled potatoes, boiled eggs, apples, or anything they will eat. Clean the cage at least every other day. Give fresh water every day, and when I clean the cage I give them a channel to bathe in. They can't bathe. I let them out two or three times a week, and let them fly around until they get ready to go home. It does them good. I keep a sack of sulphur in their cage. Keep cuttle bone in cage and a little fine sand is good for them.—MRS. E. S. TUTHILL, Holden, Mo.

Corn Bread.—2 cupfuls of sour milk, 2 of meal, 1 scant teaspoonful of soda, 1 egg. Bake either in pan or muffin rings, as preferred.

Hoe Cake.—Add to 1 pint of meal a little salt and water enough to make a stiff batter; have your griddle very hot so as to brown immediately the meal with which it must be thickly sprinkled; after turning and baking a while place inside of oven and toast, and you will give many thanks for the recipe to—AUNT SALLIE.

To Make Quick Corn Bread.—2 pints sour milk, 2 scant teaspoonfuls soda, 2 teaspoonfuls salt, 2 eggs, 3½ pints sifted meal. Mix well, pour into greased pan and bake quick.—S. R. GAPEN, Belle Plaine, Kan.

Good Recipe for Doughnuts.—2 eggs, 1 cupful sugar, 1 cupful sour cream, 1 teaspoonful soda, flavor to suit taste. Roll and fry in boiling lard.—MRS. M. A. RUNDELL, Mt. Vernon, Ia.

A Cure for Sore Eyes.—Take an egg and boil it one hour; when cool cut in two, take out the yolk and fill the cavity with powdered borax. Place in a coarse cloth and press out the liquid, about a tablespoonful. Place in a small vial. Bathe two or three times daily. I know this to be a sure cure. Try and report.—BLUE EYES.

A Simple but Excellent Eye Water.—Take a teaspoonful each of table salt, sugar and burned copperas. Add a pint of boiling water. When cool, drain off and it is ready for use.—F. B. S.

A Good Cracker Pudding.—Roll 4 large crackers to 1 qt. of milk; 1 egg; bake till it comes just to a boil. Don't sweeten till eat. Splendid for dyspeptics.

Potato Puff.—Very few people except those of German birth or ancestry know the merit of potato puff. Peel 1 qt. of large potatoes; grate them and drain all the water from them; mix the drained potato well with 6 grated onions, 1½ tablespoonfuls of flour, 6 eggs, and salt to taste. When thoroughly mixed, fry in cakes of any desired size a nice brown in hot dripping.

Soap Recipe.—I have a soap recipe. I know the tired mothers will thank me for it if they try it: 7½ lbs. sal soda, ¾ oz. borax, ¾ oz. sulphate of soda, 2 ozs. ammonia, dissolve in 4½ gals. of soft water; then add to the above 8½ lbs. good bar soap; heat it all together and turn into a tub to cool; cut in cakes the size of the common bar soap; put clothes to soak over night; or first put the dirty clothes in a tub; put in a cake of your soap in a boiler of water; let it get scalding hot; turn it on the clothes; do not have the clothes packed tight in a tub. In the morning wring out and put in a tub of hot water; rinse and rub if necessary; I do not think it will be; rinse and hang out.—MRS. D. R. C.

Cure for Felons.—Hold in hot alkaline solutions—ash-lye or lime; boiling the parts 5 to 15 minutes will cure the most obstinate felon and ulcers. The fallacy of relieving acidity of the stomach with soda only aggravates the malady of indigestion. True remedy: Promote healthy fluid secretions by abstaining from the use of foods which generate the acid conditions.—GEO. A. TYKLE, Kokomo, Ind.

Recipes.

Our Young Folks.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

MULBERRY, MO.	CAMAC, WASH. TER.	MILO, IA.
Henry Wheeler	Mary A Fisher	Oscar T Winning
John Scott	Clara C Hust	Melvin A Bloom
Elmer Nickel	Maud L Hust	Estella I Toom
Nellie Nickel	Hattie Smith	Myrtle Bloom
Anna Nickel	Amy J McCurdy	Bell Lyon
Johnnie Nickel	Cora Seward	Aurel A Sandy
STANFORD, IND.	Abner M Fockler	Warren L Wright
Fannie Sparks	Carrie A Look	Walter R Wright
Grace F Gaston	Nettie Bray	Frank Wright
Audley E Gaston	Bessie Bradley	Dick Wright
Otis O Gaston	Walter Bradley	Daisy M Wright
Alaska Eaton	W Bartholomew	Grace D Wright
Festus Smith	Ollie Barth I'm'w	Thos V Fellows
Fred M Connell	Underpila Camp	J T Fellows
Myrtle Umbarger	Wm Milford	Charley Schee
Nora Baker	Minnie Milford	Gurney Mosher
Mattie Carter	Ida Parish Ckdale	Ollie Thompson
Effie Umbarger	Celia Stockdale	F B Michener
Frank B Connell	Fay Steward	Stortx RAITIS, IA.
Della A Carpenter	Frank Steward	Ollie Kindlispire
Ira A Fowler	Maud Steward	Ollie Blackburn
Lily H Pafford	CAMIL, ILL.	Artie Blackburn
Homer S Pafford	Charley Jones	Johnny Black'n
Luella Carpenter	Fred Lallue	Emma Tabor
Thomas King	Gertrude Wehrle	Clark Tabor
Harley Baker	Louis Wehrle	Clive Tabor
James Gentry	Herman Cochran	Maggie Meechum
Nina Smith	Dan Cochran	Herb't Meechum
Eli Baker	Charlie Parker	Geo Stevens
Ralph A Connell	Flora Parker	Geo Ackley
Emma Keller	Arthur Parker	Geo Isabell
Forest Fowler	May Parker	Luella Hoskins
Fred P Lister	Joe Crebs	May Moore
Claris Baker	Estella Reed	Katie Farnum
Ralph Carpenter	Minnie Mantell	Milton Smith
Grant Thrasher	Perry McCullough	Sarah Orr
Annie Thrasher	Joe St John	Ivy Orr
Leonard Young	Myrtie Grow	Rier Orr
Minnie Carpenter	Willie Grow	Bessie Robinson
Buttie Eastham	CORYDON, IA.	Orville Robinson
Chas A Gentry	Ruth Hillyer	Ben Mangor
Della J Bowden	Lizzie Hillyer	Bessie Bennett
Troy Thrasher	Lida M Hillyer	Cletis Bennett
Festus Thrasher	Jessie A Allen	Claude Dye
Sylvia Thrasher	Chas E Sievers	Billy Carson
VENEDOCIA, O.	Lou Middlebrook	Charlie Showalt'r
John S Davis	Nellie Middleb'r	MONDOVA, WASH.
Nellie B Davis	Lizzie Middleb'r	TER.
Bertha M Dorman	Cora Barber	Willie McFarland
Edith A Davis	Onilla Mead	WILSONVILLE, NEB.
Ray Hill	Minnie Mead	Mary A Mills
Henry Uhl	Mabel Barker	Millie D Miller
Thos C Evans	Minnie Camp	Johnny Miller
Willie Brown	Nellie Camp	Fred Miller
David Allison	Sadie Davis	FRANKLIN, ILL.
Lizzie Foster	SWANTON, NEB.	Ed I Six
Ethel Roder	Lucinda Ferguson	Flo Six
Edna Roller	Lluella Ferguson	Ella Gorman
Emma Dorman	Willie Fockler	Ella Gorman
Johnny Uhl	HASTINGS, NEB.	Adn Evans
Magale Uhl	Marion Lovewell	Adn Evans
Willie Tipie	Carrie Cunningham	Eugene Doyle
Mabel Tipie	Alice Cunningham	Elmer Wells
Daisy Foster	Mattie Butts	Minnie Wells
Charlie Foster	Myrtle Cunningham	Willie Wells
Chris Dorman	Laura Riley	SALEM, MO.
Sadie Davis	Jessie Pearson	Ernest M Fider
SWANTON, NEB.	Addie Bill	EAST PARIS, MICH.
Willie Fockman	Mattie Pearson	Clara Bailey
Gertie M Cann	John Lovewell	Ida Bailey
HASTINGS, NEB.	Arthur Smith	Grace Lee
Carrie Cunningham	Willie Bender	Ivy Henry
Alice Cunningham	Elmer McGhee	Albert Washk
Myrtle Cunningham	ENGLISH GROVE, IND.	FOUND LAKE, N. Y.
Mattie Wright	Mary Bowman	Ed D Hewitt
Alice Johnson	Jessie Pearson	Charley Fixley
Pearl Mooney	Addie Bill	
Nellie Mooney	Mattie Pearson	
Edna Scott	John Lovewell	
Lillian Allen	Arthur Smith	
Florence Barden	Willie Bender	
E McCormick	Elmer McGhee	
STRAWBERRY, KAN.	ENGLISH GROVE, IND.	
Theodore Holmes	Nellie Fixley	
Ina Holmes	Bessie Bradley	
Harry Holmes	Walter Bradley	
Olive Holmes	Charley Fixley	

Names this week, 241. Total, 16,506.

The above embraces all names received up to October 12.

FALL APPLES.

Grandpa and Ruthie went walking one day
Out in the orchard together,
With hearts that had nothing to do but be gay,
All in the sunshiny weather;
Out where the branches were laden with fruit
As thick as with blossoms in spring;
Where the blue-bird kept merrily tuning his lute,
And the robin did nothing but sing.

When Ruthie espied, on a tree standing near,
Some apples with cheeks growing red;
"O, grandpa, just see!" "Why yes, Ruth, my dear,
Those are the fall apples," he said,
Then, of a sudden, a gay little breeze
The orchard came frolicking through,
And shook from that prettiest one of the trees
A shower of apples, or two.
"O, grandpa!" Ruth cried, with a queer little cough,
"Do you call them fall apples because they fall off?"—*Youths Companion.*

For the Blade Young Folks.

MOTHER HUBBARD'S THANKSGIVING PARTY.

BY MRS. W. E. SANDFORD.

"Old mother Hubbard, went to the cupboard,
To get her poor cat a bone."

Oh, no,—no indeed, 'twas a dog, not a cat. I think I hear a dozen young disciples of "Mother Goose" shouting.

How do you know but that the Mother Hubbard you are thinking of, and the Mother Hubbard I am talking of, are two different persons? To prove it let me tell you that your Mother Hubbard, died long, long ago, and my Mother Hubbard is still living.

I don't know that these two good ladies, were so much alike. I only know that both seemed to live alone, and were both fond of pets. My Mother Hubbard was famous for having pets. Of course, her cat was the first and foremost of all, and he was so well trained, that he very seldom interfered with the rights of others. These others might be called boarders, while "Tony," for that was his name, was a permanent member of the family. Sometimes it was a sick chicken that had to be cared for in the house, and sometimes a poor little lamb that had lost its mother. Once it was a lame robin, and now the funniest of all, so the children who came every day, to see Mother Hubbard thought, it was a cunning white mice. They were sent to her by a boy who thought Mother Hubbard just the nicest woman in the world, and boylike he was sure they would just suit her. When she opened the box, or cage, in which they were sent, how she laughed, but she said she would take good care of them, for the sake of the boy who sent them.

But now I must tell you more about Tony the cat. A great many people think a cat of no account, compared with a dog.

Perhaps the other Mrs. Hubbard thought so, I couldn't say, but my Mrs. Hubbard, would often say "no doubt dogs are well enough, but I'd like to see the dog who could hold a candle to my Tony." She was very fond of Tony, for he was a great handsome fellow, with a wise face and large honest eyes, not sneaky looking like some cats. He had a jet black coat of which he took the best of care. His face was white and he had three white feet. His tail however was his chief glory. It was very large and long and just tipped with white, and it was almost as bushy as a squirrel's. And woe to the young kitten, who had the audacity to make a plaything of it. It was surprising, to see how promptly he was cuffed, and sent about his business. Not that Tony was in the least quarrelsome. Generally speaking, he was very indulgent to young kittens, for he had not yet forgotten his own kittenhood. Tony would learn almost as well as a dog, and his mistress had taught him a number of tricks, such as jumping over a broomstick, and standing up and begging like a dog. She said she taught him to amuse the children, but they all knew that Mother Hubbard enjoyed it all as well as they did.

Now that I have told you so much about Mother Hubbard's cat, I am sure you must want to get acquainted with that good lady herself. At any rate you would, if you are at all like the children who live in her neighborhood. They all love her dearly, and are never more happy, than when she invites two or three of them, at a time, to come and see her, and play with Tony. She has a stone jar in which she keeps a supply of ginger cookies, on purpose for her little friends, and none that they ever get at home taste quite as good as Mother Hubbard.

They always call her Mother Hubbard, and she likes it, and calls them her children. And their own mothers know that the little folks, are just as well cared for when they are with her, as when they are at home.

Now though Tony was a very handsome cat, his mistress could hardly be called a handsome woman, but for fear some of the children, who are such devoted admirers of Mother Hubbard, should see this, I think it will be safer for me to say very little on that subject. Mrs. Hubbard was not rich by any means. She had her little cottage and garden, and that was all, but she managed to get along nicely, for she was an industrious woman, and knew how to make the most of everything. In the fall she generally had a large flock of chickens and turkeys for market, and through the summer sold a great many eggs, and a good deal of fruit from her garden. Then she was a great knitter,

The Farm.

Information Wanted.

TANNING SKINS.—I would like to ask some one who is posted how I may successfully tan a colt or horse hide; also can a calf hide be tanned? I would say that for horses I have used the tanner; yet Mr. Germain's method will cure more times than would fail.—J. J. BARNES, Saratoga, Neb. [To tan deer skins (prepared for buckskin gloves), for each skin take a bucket of water, and put into it one quart of lime; let the skin or skins lay in for three or four days in the lime; rinse in clear water, hair and grade, then soak them in cold water to get out the lime. Now pound or scour in good soapsuds for half an hour, after which take white vitriol, alum and salt, a tablespoonful of each to a skin. These will be dissolved in sufficient water to cover the skin, and remain in it for 24 hours. Ring out as dry as convenient, and spread on with a brush half a pint of curriers' oil and hang in the sun about two days, after which you will scour out the oil with soapsuds and hang out again until perfectly dry; then pull and work them until they are soft, and if a reasonable time does not make them soft, soak in soapsuds again, as before, until complete. The oil may be saved by pouring or taking it from the top of the suds, if left standing a short time. The buff color is given by spreading yellow ochre even over the surface of the skin, when finished, rubbing it in well with a brush. To tan skins with the hair on, when taken from the animal, spread it flesh side up, then put two parts of salt, two parts of saltpetre and mingle combined; make it fine, sprinkle it evenly over the surface, roll it up, let it alone a few days until dissolved, then take off what flesh remains, and nail the skin to the side of the barn, in the sun, stretched tight, the hair left like harness leather; put neat's foot oil on the flesh, let it up in the sun again, then rub out all the oil you can with a wedge shaped stick.—ED.

M. H. L., Little River, Kansas: As your mare has got over the worst of the distemper, the best thing you can now do will be to give this: Sulphate of iron, four ounces; saltpeter, four ounces. Mix with enough common mass to make ten balls, and give one twice a day. A bran mash twice a week for three weeks should also be given.—ED.]

A letter from Mrs. A. A. Morrison, from Rollin, North Carolina, that by some means was mislaid, refers to the Arnold fruit evaporator, directions for making which, is sent free by the Fruit and Vegetable Farmer's association. She sends specimens of the evaporated fruit, which is very fine. A ready market for such fruit should be found in every orchard. As the best place to sell the fruit, we would advise a near by market. Profits are uncertain in shipping dried fruit a long distance, by the time freight and commission are paid. For the very high opinion entertained by Mrs. Morrison for the BLADE, thanks are returned.—ED.

COAL ASHES.—Please answer through the BLADE whether or not ashes from ordinary stove coal passes any fertilizing qualities? R. T. SMITH, Horse Cave, Ky. [Coal ashes on hard clay soil tends to mellow it, but has but little fertilizing property, not anything like wood ashes, which is excellent. ED.]

M. B. B. Middleburg, N. Y.—Your colt is suffering from indigestion and mange. Treatment: Take coarse brush and wash him thoroughly with castile soap and warm water, applying the brush freely. Then rub and blanket him until dry. Next give him a cathartic, as raw linseed oil, 12 ounces, oil of aniseed, one and a half drachms; spirits sweet nitre, one and a half ounces. Apply this to the affected parts: Sulphur, four ounces; lard, ten ounces; carbolic acid, one-half ounce. Mix and rub on with a cloth. Use a new cloth at each application. Everything used on the horse should be carefully washed as the disease is caused by a parasite which is had to kill. Blankets should be boiled in very hot water, and harness well scraped. The colt should have the best of food, and kept in a warm, dry stall. Never use the curry-comb applied to your colt on any other animal. Also, give internally, after the cathartic has operated, bi-carbonate of soda, one-fourth ounce; powdered gentian, one-fourth ounce; powdered nux vomica, 15 grains. This dose twice a day for a week.—ED.]

Please tell me what to do for my steers. Two of them got tushed by a mad bear. The wounds appeared slight, only skin deep, which healed up all right, apparently. Now, about six weeks since, there has formed large, hard lumps, beginning with the wound and extending upwards, which do not appear sore to the touch.—MARK ESSEX, Lisbon. [The best thing to be done will be to cause irritation. Cauterize the part affected, and then apply carbolic salve.—ED.]

A REMEDY WANTED.—We have a splendid cow that about fourteen months ago was cut or snagged by some sharp stubble, directly under and close up to the right eye. The wound was a clean cut, about one inch in length, which never healed, and during this time the lower eyelid on the wrong side out and become a running sore, swollen considerable and the eye is entirely gone. From this there has formed a considerable bunch, apparently filled with pus, but having no opening, located directly under the right ear; have applied iodine, burnt alum and carbolic acid (separately), but it seems to grow worse. Any remedy that will heal this will be thankfully received by C. L. BEARD, Claringa, Ohio. [The part that has become a running sore must be dessected out with a knife, so that healthy flesh may be reached in order to heal. The lump must be lanced. After the knife has been used and the unhealthy flesh removed carbolic salve will heal it. This is a case for a veterinary.—ED.]

BLOOD SPAVIN.—Please tell me what is the matter with my yearling colt. He has a swelling on inside of the hock joint of about a month's standing; come on gradually, was soft at first, but is growing harder; is not lame, but leg is little stiff. What would be best for him? Any information will be gladly received.—A SUBSCRIBER, Westfield, Ind. [This is a distention of the capsule containing the synova or joint oil of true hock. The part should be fomented with hot water to take out the heat. Give a moderate dose of aloes, and afterward a tea-spoonful of saltpeter in the drinking water twice a day for a week. Then apply red iodide of mercury, one drachm; lard, two ounces, to the affected part. Rub a piece the size of a hulled hickory nut on the swelling every day. The colt should be kept in a quiet place. If you have a veterinary near by he will do first rate with counter-irritant and apply a compress. If lameness is not caused treatment will be unnecessary.—ED.]

G. W. GRANT.—Regarding the stiff joint of your horse that was dislocated we cannot give you advice that would be of benefit. A personal examination would be necessary. If you have a veterinary in your vicinity you would do well to consult him.—ED.]

S. F. MOKE, Specrvale, Ohio: We cannot say whether the lock-jaw of your horse resulted fatally or not. An examination by a competent veterinary, if there is one near you, would determine the case. There might have been necessity for removing the clamps and caring for the parts. As to your mare that got her ham string cut entirely off, nothing can be done for her. The best thing you can do is to keep her for breeding purposes. We are sorry to hear that you have met with such misfortunes.—ED.]

J. A. CHERRY, Clackamas, Oregon: The trouble with your horse is a dropsical one. Give him gentle exercise, good grooming, good hay and oats, and this diuretic mass: Venice turpentine, 3 ozs; oil of juniper, 2 drms.; powdered rosin, 9 ozs.; nitre, 6 ozs.; hard, dried soap, 6 ozs. Melt the rosin, soap and turpentine together, and when cooling stir in the juniper and nitre. For 24 hours, one or two for a dose. Also, give half a drachm of citrate of iron and ammonia three times a day, either in the drinking water or sprinkled on the corn.—ED

WHAT WILL CURE IT?—What will cure a wart on a horse? I have a mare that has a bleeding wart on the ankle joint; pare it off and it grows again and bleeds. Please give receipt in the BLADE.—D. P. LUYSTER, Jinneus, Mo. [The best way to treat a wart, which is not yet spoken of, is to pare off and then cauterize the part with a hot iron. Afterward apply vaseline, to be had at any drug store.—ED.]

EDWARD CHAPPEL, Horseheads, N. Y.: Your horse is effected with splints. Apply this liniment: Oil of origanum, one ounce; oil of turpentine, one ounce; alcohol, half an ounce. Apply night and morning for a few days at a time. If this does not answer, firing should be resorted to.

LUMPS ON FORE LEGS.—Have a horse which lies on his fore feet when lying down which has caused lumps on his fore legs close to body which break and run and known as "shoe boils." What will remove lumps and prevent horse lying on his heel caulks when lying down?—D. D. S., Sanford, Ind. [The knife must be used on the lumps, and then apply this salve: Lard, four ounces; beeswax, four ounces; rosin, two ounces; carbolic acid, one-fourth ounce. Mix the first three and melt then add the carbolic acid, stirring till cool. Make pads like boxing gloves to fit on the horse's feet. He cannot then injure himself.—ED.]

Answers to Inquiries.

PICKLE FOR BEEF AND HAMS.—Six gallons of water, 9 lbs. of Rock Island salt, 1 qt. molasses, 3 lbs. coarse brown sugar, 3 ozs. saltpetre, 1 oz. soda. Boil and skim; put to the meat cold. This is sufficient for one barrel.—SUBSCRIBER.

CHEAP FRUIT DRYER.—Make a closet three feet high and two feet wide and deep, of sheet iron, and fit wire gauze shelves in it. Set it up on four feet six inches long, so it can stand upon a stove. Make a number of holes around the top for the moisture to escape. Set it upon the stove and fill the shelves with fruit. As the fruit dries, it is removed and replaced with fresh. The bottom of the closet is made of iron, with spaces of about on inch between them and a shelf of wire gauze is laid upon this. The lowest shelf is one foot from the bottom; the gauze is galvanized and ¼-inch wide.—SUBSCRIBER.

BLACK LEG.—As for black leg use one tablespoonful of powdered copperas twice a day for one or two days. It has cured the disease.—DANIEL BRONSON, East Trumbull, Ohio.

A CURE HEREWITH.—I will give a cure, or partial cure, for R. S Goble's Ferris, Tex., horse: Take one tablespoonful of fresh lard and mix with same amount of strained honey, using externally over the lid and ball of the eye. If this does not benefit, bleed the horse under the eye where the veins prong that run from the lower head. Then apply the mixture as before. If serum is removed and the horse's eye is not right and pupil dilated, mix with lard and honey, opium (in powder) to the amount of the other ingredients. This will contract the pupil and make sight stronger. Use the ingredients every other day, washing after standing twelve hours.—J. J. RESERVE, Kansas.

Receipt for Curing Pork.

EDITOR BLADE FARM:—To make a pickle for bacon, hams and shoulders: For 110 lbs. of meat use 6 lbs. of the best salt, 4 ozs. of saltpetre, and 5 lbs. of brown sugar. Pack the meat smoothly in a sweet cask, and cover with this pickle. The same ingredients may be mixed together and rubbed on the flesh side of the meat. The meat must be piled together and rubbed every other day with the mixture until it is all absorbed. In three weeks smoke the dry-salted, and in six weeks that in the pickle. Smoke until it is colored a light or dark chestnut, according to taste. Use hard wood or corncobs, to make the smoke. Dry-salting is the most economical, and is just as good, if well done, as curing in the pickle. Meat cured by this recipe is ready for cooking without freshening. All the hams and bacon are to be kept a long time add one pound more of salt. If a sweet taste is desired add more sugar; molasses does just as well. The animal heat should be thoroughly out of the meat before curing is attempted, and great care should be taken that there is no frost in the meat.—J. D. LEISURE, Lansing, Mich.

Extracting Wax.

At the late meeting of the Bee Keepers' association at Indianapolis, Ind., in the discussion on wax extractors, Mr. Dadant said that where wax is extracted by steam, by no means let the jet of steam strike the wax. Run the steampipes down into the water, steaming the cells and wax. When it gets the water boiling hot, throw in the pieces of comb. Direct steam has the tendency to get the wax into the well known granular state, from which it is very difficult, many times, to restore it. A number reported having used the wax extractor, and all declared themselves highly pleased with its use. It is practical, however, for only small quantities of wax. Steam is best for a large lot. Put only as much comb into the solar wax extractor as will be melted quickly, and take away the wax often—each day if convenient. Cappings are rendered better by the solar extractor, and the honey that comes from them will be found under the cake of wax, good enough for the table. In fact, the honey adhering to the cappings is of the very best quality, although it is sometimes darkened by bits of pollen, etc., that get into it. Mr. Dadant advocated that they let the cappings drain a great deal longer than most people. Sometimes they put them on the scive of the uncapping-can, and let them stand three or four weeks. When all the honey is run out that will run out, put on another lot, and so on. He says they sometimes have several barrels waiting to be thus drained out in the uncapping-can.

Protection of Bees in Winter.

Eva Sholl, at the Indiana Bee Keepers' association, upon the subject of "Winter Protection of Bees," held the following:

"While there is uniformity in many things in the management of bees, when it comes to wintering, the plans and methods given are so many and various, as to almost to distract the beginner. Uniform success will probably never be attained; nor is it possible for all to adopt the same plan. Let us then first consider what a colony needs protection against.

"The food of the bee being liquid, nearly all is inhaled in the form of moisture. This passes off as vapor in moderate weather, but in cold it is condensed on the comb and sides of the hive in the form of frost. To prevent the accumulation of frost near the cluster, it is necessary to provide means for warmth as well as cryness. With the brood-nest contracted, and a good absorbent above the bees, we have, perhaps, the best known way to secure this; something that will retain the warmth and much of the cluster and allow the moisture to escape."

Some Interesting Figures from the Report of the Treasury Department.

Toledo Daily Blade, December 17.

Yesterday's Produce Exchange Circular contains the following interesting United States treasury department report of exports and breadstuff for November and for five months in 1886 and 1885:

The exportation in November, 1886, was 8,-201,759 bushels of wheat and 917,614 barrels of flour, equal to 12,790,292 bushels of wheat, compared with wheat and flour exported in November, 1885, equal to 5,325,700 bushels.

Of the wheat exported in November, there was shipped from the Pacific coast 140,063 barrels of flour, and 4,023,470 bushels wheat, equal to 4,063,888 bushels of wheat compared with flour and wheat equal to 2,047,305 bushels in 1885.

Deducting Pacific coast shipments from the aggregate it leaves for the Atlantic ports flour and wheat equal to 7,660,404 bushels.

The exports for five months in 1886 were 43,603,833 bushels of wheat and 4,608,086 barrels of flour, equal to 64,340,220 bushels of wheat, compared with flour and wheat reported in the same months in 1885, of 31,-185,250 bushels.

Of the exports in five months in 1886, there was shipped from the Pacific coast 644,410 barrels of flour, and 13,362,070 bushels of wheat, equal to 16,261,915 bushels, compared with 503,393 barrels flour and 6,517,017 bushels wheat, equal to 8,702,286 bushels of wheat, shipped in same time in 1885.

Deducting Pacific coast shipments from the aggregate, it leaves for exportation from the Atlantic ports equal to 48,178,305 bushels of wheat.

As before stated, the aggregate exports in five months have been 64,340,220 bushels, July 1 to November 30 lacks one day of 21 weeks, and it will thus be seen that the movement exceeds 3,000,000 bushels per week. If this ratio of exportation is maintained for the remaining 31 weeks we shall have exported 160,000,-000 bushels in flour and wheat. Of course our surplus depends on what we raised. Dealers are purchasing our crop now, every week, and it is hard to tell what they will finally produce. If we consume in bread 256,000,000, and 50,-000,000 in seed, and 10,000,000 to raise inferior wheat up to a weight of 60 pounds, that makes an aggregate of 316,000,000, and if we export 160,000,000 it will express 476,000,-000. If half the wheat is in farmers' hands as recently assumed, we must have missed a crop somewhere, and overrun one.

MINNEAPOLIS MILLS.

Production and Exports—Business for the Year 1886.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 16.—The *Northwestern Miller* says: The open, pleasant weather of last week enabled the mills to make a better showing. The production was 122,-875 barrels, averaging 20,479 barrels daily, against 119,900 barrels the preceding week and 67,545 barrels the corresponding time in 1885.

The pool placing mills on two-third time in the use of water power was postponed for a week.

The exports were much heavier last week, over 45 per cent, of the whole product, or 53,810 barrels. Receipts the past week of wheat, 1,130,250 bushels. Imports—wheat, 303,000 bushels; flour, 114,-570 barrels; mill stuff, 3,686 tons.

The flour production for the year ending Nov. 30 was 6,000,000 barrels above the previous year, 5,957,000 barrels. The exports were 2,543,000 barrels, or 42.7 per cent. of production, against 33.48 per cent. last year. The percentage packed in barrels was 41.6 per cent., against over 50 per cent. last year. The average daily output for the year was over 19,000 barrels.

Hebrew Reform.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 15.—The spirit of Hebrew reform has taken strong foothold in this city, and the resolution of the inauguration of Sunday services at the Eighth street synagogue is now being discussed by some of its members. Even some of those known as orthodox Jews are also in favor of holding services on the Christian Sunday, and a convention will be held in a few weeks to take action on the question. It is the intention to continue Saturday services as usual for the benefit of orthodox Hebrews.

THE MYSTERY OF SUFFERING.

Farewell Sermon Delivered by Henry Ward Beecher in the City Temple, London, Prior to His Return to America.

[The BLADE to-day, by way of variety, gives its readers a most excellent sermon by Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. Dr. Talmage's sermons will be resumed in the next issue, and they will be published weekly hereafter.—ED. BLADE.]

Text:—"For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom He receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons. Furthermore, we have had fathers of our flesh which corrected us, and we gave them reverence; shall we not much rather be in subjection to the Father of spirits, and live? For they verily for a few days chastened us after their own pleasure; but He for our profit, that we might be partakers of His holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."—Hebrews xii. 6-11.

This, after its sort, is a kind of philosophy, a phenomenon of human experience. Everything in nature, according to the measure of its power, is happier than is man. Life is brief and uncompounded in the lower range; it is not tormented by fears; it has no to-morrow, it has no remorse; its hours are few; but, so far as we can judge, the insect flits through the brief period of its life without a sorrow and without a trouble, and though death may come by violence it is not anticipated; it does not come so much by slow approach, it comes instantaneously, and everything below man seems to fulfill its destiny along the line unchecked of cause and effect. But the moment you rise above the animal kingdom you find man in everlasting conflict with himself, with his social surroundings, with society, with hope and fear of the future. Man alone is the only miserable creature on the earth, and yet he is called the son of God. Men have been studying how to create happiness that should be undisturbed and unbroken in this world. They have discovered a great many things, invented a great many things, found out a great many medicines and remedies, but happiness has eluded their search. Single persons seem to have struck the harmony, but in multitudes, in nations, in ages, the whole creation has been "groaning and travailing in pain." Moralists and poets have descanted on the subject. This world has been called a vale of tears, a land of sorrows, a land of disappointments; from the cradle to the grave men have alternated between smiles and tears. A steady flow of happiness, a soul that knows how to keep time as that watch knows how to keep time, has never been born, and does not live. We flit between light and dark.

Now, happiness is certainly, we may believe, the final end of creation. Whatsoever maketh a lie or causeth offence in the grand land of consummation will have been purged out, and happiness without alloy will yet be the end of every true life that is borne and suffering has been wrought out into the full possession of its birthright. The process or education of man in this world proceeds on the law of suffering—happiness the graduating point; suffering the academy, the seminary; and the best teachers are that inflict suffering on man. Paul so clearly puts it, that in this sacred philosophy of our text that it is said that a man is not a man that does not suffer; and especially in his relations to God a man is a bastard that dodges suffering, gets rid of it, gets out of it. It is the law of God. Now, suffering is taught not only as a fact, but there are in this wonderful Book of God, among all its horses and clouds and trumpets and armies and various symbols, some of the most exquisite truths wrought in between to be found in any of the books of the Bible. "One of the elders answered me saying, What are these that are arrayed in white robes? Whence came they, the radiant? I said unto him, Sir, thou knowest; and he said to me, These are they that came out of great tribulation, and have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb" (that is, in the bath of suffering; for Christ's blood means suffering); "therefore are they before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple; and He that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them." Clear down to the last vision they are highest that have been most suffering in the great school of this life. It is the law of education. Why it was made so, if you know, please instruct me. One thing is that *why*. Why did God make things thus and so? Why did He so develop human life? Why did He make this the road through which humanity was to travel? Why did He make the law of suffering the law of education, rather than the law of happiness? This *why* pours into the gulf of ignorance. We don't know. We are ignorant in proportion as we go back to the beginnings of things. These are secrets that no science will penetrate; at any rate, not for ages yet; these lie hidden in the bosom of God. But Christ is the type of the moral kingdom of God. The sufferings of Christ have been adapted to be our helps, that, positive object ground; let him take comfort and consolation who may out of the several theories that have existed. It was necessary to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering, because He was leading the multitude, the whole world's population, toward elevation through suffering, and He entered Himself under that august law of the universe, suffering. The blood of Christ means suffering, as He interprets it Himself: "Greater love hath no man than that he should lay down his life for his friends." And the suffering and death of Christ, the shedding of His blood, which is equivalent of parting from life, are meant by His own interpretation to be the measure of the love that He has, and has had, upon the race. He is the Captain, through suffering, of men that suffer. It was necessary for Him, because it was necessary for Him to pass through the same road that we all have ourselves to pass. It is a badge of discipleship—suffering is. Men do not come to the fulness of their relation to God except through it. No man can blink it; no man can dodge it; no man, be he ever so wise, can escape it, nor should he want to. The mother of Zebedee's children wanted her boys to go to the throne of Jehovah without any suffering, and the reply, mysterious to them, is clearly discernible to us in its intent: "Can you drink of the cup that I am to drink of, and be baptized with the baptism?" And they in the innocence of their ignorance said: "Yes, Lord, we are able." And the reply intimates: "You shall have your share in your baptism; but as to the reward which you seek outside of baptism it is not mine to give." And it is not anybody's to give; it is not God Almighty's ability to give without a violation of the whole law of the divine economy.

Now, look at the scale of suffering. The first is physical pain, which is the lowest; it is cautionary. Pain of ttimes is like the thick-set hedge along the edge of the precipice, and men would go over if their were no caution or warning. If they grumble at the thorns, the thorns are there salvation; otherwise they might have gone stumbling on and so painful thing for such is cautionary. The remembrance of it prevents a man violating some natural law—that is, some law that has its its seat in the physical structure of the man's own body. A child has no knowledge. It gains knowledge by suffering. A child has no conception of the laws of gravitation till he has tumbled down stairs or cut his shin or has no knowledge of fire, no knowledge of the suffocating influence of water. It comes little by little. The knowledge of natural laws and the violation of them bring quick pain to him, and is his schoolmaster, in so far as a very limited extent of physical suffering is concerned. Physical suffering or pain, as we should call it, is vindicatory, and, in this vindicatory life, pain, in some respects, is instantaneous, in other respects it is dilatory. In some respects it avenges the violation of the law early and vigorously; in other respects it lets it lie long through years and years, and punishes in mid-life and in old age the transgressions of youth and strength. But he that has violated a physical law does not get rid of it. It grips him, though it may not be touched him; nature, as a lion holds and sports with its prey before he eats it. No prayer will set a man free from the pain of the violation of physical law, and yet there is something provided in that; there are remedial tendencies in the human body—an kind of foretaste, or rather a foresight in materials

WASHINGTON.

THE WEEK IN CONGRESS.

A Brief But Comprehensive Review of the Important Work Done in Congress During the Week.

IN THE SENATE.

Mr. Merrill offered a resolution which was referred to the Committee on Finance, directing the committee to examine as to the expediency of some practical measure for the maintenance of the system of national banks with ample security and without additional cost to the government.

Among the memorials presented was one by Mr. Spooner, from the German Aid society of Wisconsin, expressing the idea that there was no further necessity for stimulating immigration to this country, and that no satisfactory reason can be assigned for allowing foreigners to vote and hold office after one year's residence and before they are naturalized, and suggesting that the enactment of laws making naturalization and suffrage to conform to a uniform standard.

Petitions from tobacco manufacturers in St. Louis, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Lynchburg, Durham, N. C., and other cities, protesting against the passage of the House bill in reference to the packing of cut tobacco, were presented by Messrs. Vest and Ransom, and referred to the committee on Finance.

Mr. Van Wyck moved to make a special order for the second Tuesday in January the bill for the relief of settlers and purchasers of lands in Nebraska and Kansas adjoining the Denver and St. Joseph railroad. He made a statement in the nature of a personal explanation in regard to his ownership of 2 sections of the lands concerned, and said that if the Senate could do ample justice to those settlers who had trusted implicitly to the good faith and honor of the government, while excluding any claim that he had, he should not only advise that course, but should cheerfully consent to such determination.

The motion was agreed to, and the bill was made a special order for the second Tuesday in January.

The laws authorizing the coinage and issuance of trade dollars were repealed.

The postoffice free delivery bill passed in the House on the 18th inst. was passed.

The bill for the repeal of the tenure of office act was discussed at length and then passed.

IN THE HOUSE.

Mr. Oates, of Alabama, introduced a bill to prohibit the appointment of Congressional committees to attend funerals, and to prohibit the draping of public buildings in mourning, except by order of the President. Referred.

Mr. Lawler, of Illinois, introduced a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the House that a large proportion of the surplus in the treasury should be expended through liberal appropriations for repairing and properly equipping the coast defenses, and for the construction of ships. Referred.

A bill by Mr. Allen, of Massachusetts, was presented and referred granting pensions to postal railway clerks who have become scarred or disabled in the service.

Mr. Hewitt, of New York, introduced a bill authorizing the secretary of the Treasury to anticipate the payment of the interest on the public debt, and to provide for special deposits of public money.

In Committee of the Whole, the House adopted unanimously reports adversely civil reports bill granting an increase of the appropriation for the Baltimore postoffice building, from $100,000 to $287,000; an increase from $50,000 to $100,000 for the public building at Galveston, Texas; an increase from $50,000 to $70,000 for the public building at Jackson, Fla.; appropriating $100,000 for a public building at Troy, N. Y.; an appropriation $25,000 to commence a public building at Detroit, Mich.; an increase from $50,000 to $100,000 at Rochester, N. Y., and appropriating $10,000 for a breakwater at Chicago.

Mr. Morrison brought up his motion for a discussion of the tariff laws and it was agreed to by a majority of five.

CABINET CHANGES.

Both Garland and Manning to Retire.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Although newspapers throughout the country have fallen into the habit of late of referring in a sneering way to the reports of correspondents concerning cabinet changes, it is nevertheless true at least one change is about to take place in the list of President Cleveland's counsellors.

It may be mere speculation, and is probably untrue, that Attorney General Garland has any idea of retiring, but the people who are permitted to see him daily have not the slightest doubt that he will be out of the cabinet in a very short time. If he does not go out voluntarily, his friend fear he will do so through necessity, for he is a very delicate health, notwithstanding the fact that he tries to make himself believe that he is improving in physical strength.

Mr. Manning is helped in and out of his carriage, up and down the stairways at his residence, at the department, and is lifted bodily from step to step at the White House, as though he were an invalid of many years' suffering. He totters and reels, and has all the appearance of one who suffers intensely and has grave apprehensions of the end being imminent. Those who have talked with Mr. Manning recently and who have had the best opportunity of judging of his physical strength say he must leave the harassments of his office or run great risk of losing his life. It is evident for reasons for which even his friends do not speak of, but which relate to the precarious condition of his health, that Mr. Manning will not be in the cabinet after March next. He will stay till Congress adjourns in all probability.

DABNEY'S DENIAL.

The Result of Investigations Not Satisfactory to the Public.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—An investigation is being made by the pension office of the charge that Dr. Dabney, a special examiner, was a guard at Andersonville prison. Dabney recently published a card in which he said that at the close of the war he was only 15 years old; that he was not a guard at Andersonville, and was not in the Confederate service. Those who claim that Dabney was a prison guard say his denial is no denial at all, but an equivocation; that fully 25 per cent. of the guards at the rebel prisons were either boys under 14 years of age or decrepit old men; that guards at Andersonville were not in the Confederate service, but in the service of the state of Georgia, and that if Dabney was not a prison guard he held some other position at the prison.

Dabney is very vague about his early history, and it may take some time to get at the facts, and until the facts are developed, Dabney's denial should be held in abeyance, as it is not taken as conclusive by the pension office officials themselves.

It was learned to-day that Dabney took oath to Commissioner of Pensions Black, but it is of the same vague character as his statement for the press some days ago, and is said to not be satisfactory to the pension officials. It is stated upon excellent authority that soon after Dabney's appointment he boasted that he was a soldier during the war and was a guard at a prison when a boy but 14 years old, and out of this grew the report that he was a guard at Andersonville. It seems to be only a question of locating Dabney's services and their character.

DETAILS OF THE BATTLE.

All Eyes Turned Upon Morrison—Randall's Actions.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—When the morning hour closed, a hush fell over the House, and the noise in the galleries ceased. All eyes were turned upon Mr. Morrison, who arising in his seat said:

"Mr. Speaker—I move that the House resolve itself into the committee of the Whole on the state of the Union for the purpose of considering revenue bills."

Mr. McKinley, (O.)—And on that I demand the yeas and nays."

During the roll call absolute silence reigned in the House, and many members with pencil in hand, were figuring up the vote. Messrs. Morrison and Randall were apparently among the least interested, each leaning back in his chair within a few feet of the other while now and then a pleasant remark was exchanged between them. The motion was lost—yeas, 148; nays, 154. The announcement was received with some applause on the Republican side, but it was quickly suppressed.

New York Banks All Right.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Mr. Trenholm, comptroller of the currency, was asked by an Associated Press reporter this afternoon what he thought of the situation in Wall street to-day, so far as the banks are concerned. He said, in substance; "I learned nothing to lead me to think that the banks are at all involved in the panic. I have received telegrams from the presidents of several banks and they all concur in ascribing the present trouble to the collapse of stock operations.

"The more experienced and conservative bankers had foreseen this, and consequently were prepared for it. So far as my information goes, none of the banks are implicated with any persons reported as embarrassed by the panic.

"There is a telegram just received from a gentleman in New York whose judgement I have great confidence in: Market better. Money stringency confined to Wall street Unless failures occur, the worst is over. No signs of weakness among banks."

To Prevent Stock Gambling.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Sen. Plum to-day introduced a bill providing that no railroad or other company or corporation engaged in inter-state commerce shall have or keep an office for, or otherwise provided for or permit the transfer upon the books of such corporation of any portion of the capital stock of the same at any place outside the state by or under the laws of which the said corporation was incorporated, and all transfer of the stock of any such corporation at any point or place outside the limits of the state by which such corporation was incorporated shall be void.

Paying the January Interest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The secretary of the treasury has directed the payment without rebate of the interest due January 1, 1887, on United States 4 per cent. bonds of the loan of 1907, amounting to about $9,000,000, and also the interest on the bonds issued to the Pacific railway company upon the presentation of the coupon and interest checks at the treasury at Washington or at any of the subtreasuries. Checks for registered interest will be mailed to bondholders as soon as prepared.

Morrison's Tariff Motion Lost.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Morrison has just moved that the House go into committee of the whole upon the tariff bill.

Morrison's motion was lost—yeas, 148; nays, 154.

The following Democrats voted in the negative: Bliss, Boyle, Campbell, (O.), Curtin, Ermentrout, Foran, Gay, Geddes, Green, (N. J.), Irion, Lawler, Lefevre, Martin, McAdoo, Merriman, Muller, Randall, Seney, Sowden, Spriggs, Stahlnecke, St. Martin, Wallace, Ward, (Ill.), Warner, (O.), and Wilkins; and the following Republicans in the affirmative: Hayden, Nelson, Stone, (Mass.), Strait, Wakefield, and White, (Minn.)

The Free Delivery System.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Senate passed the House bill to extend the free delivery system of the postoffice department. It provides that letter carriers shall be employed for free delivery at every incorporated city, village, or borough containing a population of 50,000 within its corporate limits, and may be so employed at every place containing a population of not less than 10,000, according to the last general census, or at any postoffice which produced a gross revenue for the preceding fiscal year of not less than $10,000.

Holiday Recess.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—In the House, Mr. Morrison, from the committee on Ways and Means, reported back the concurrent resolution for a holiday recess from December 22 to January 4. Agreed to—132 to 25.

POWDERLY'S PLATFORM.

His Letter to the Labor Party of Philadelphia—The George Campaign.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 21.—Grand Master Workman Powderly has addressed a letter to the committee of the United Labor party of this city, in reply to an invitation to address the convention of that party. He thanks them for the honor tendered him, but says there are many good reasons why he should decline, and adds:

"When the laboring people of New York nominated Henry George for mayor, they acted independently of party, and without regard to the man that they placed at the head of the ticket. My name was used by partisans in New York to stem the tide. It was urged that I wrote a letter against George, and that I opposed the movement generally. I knew of no better way of giving the lie to all of those false statements, and to allay the excitement, than my part towards the establishment of a sentiment that would eventually tend to secure for labor some of the benefits that she asks for than to go in person and refute the charges. I did it, and there my duty ended. In going to New York on that occasion I made a deliberate sacrifice that I have observed for some time, and which I do not intend to break again, viz.: not to speak at a political meeting again while I hold the position of chief officer of the Knights of Labor.

"While it might be entirely proper for me to speak at such meeting, yet it creates the impression that the order of the knights is being drawn into the contest, and it is my duty to do all that lies in my power to keep the order over which I have been chosen to preside above the tide of partisan politics. In New York, my course as an individual in voicing the sentiment of united labor, and not as general master workman of the knights of labor.

"While I am General Master Workman, I will never again occupy a place either as speaker or officer on the political platform. I would advise you not to take any action as a party. Let each man act until it becomes the duty of all interested to endeavor to educate the masses to free the ballot box from the degrading influences of the bribegiver and taker, as well as from that tool of monopoly, whisky. Put forth your every effort to discover what is wanted in the management of the municipal affairs of your city, and vote for it. Too often the people allow the interest to die out on the eve of election day, but continue until you have located the cause of the trouble."

"You will find that in order to remove the cause of the trouble you will have to begin at the bottom, and work up, instead of beginning at the top and falling down. If your movement means what its name indicates, keep it up, and enlist the services of all honest men, for all such are interested in honest government, regardless of their calling in life."

ORDERED TO WITHDRAW.

The Fight Between Knights of Labor and Trades Unions.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—It is announced today that District Assembly No. 1725, mixed, of the Knights of Labor, has declared war on the Trades and Labor Assembly, and withdrawn its delegates, George Rodgers, Robert Nelson and John Foley.

This is an acceptance in Chicago of the challenge on the part of the Federation of Trades conference at Columbus against the Knights, and the move is of more importance than is apparent at first glance, when the fact is taken into consideration that Messrs. Rodgers, Foley and Nelson have figured for a long time among the leaders of the labor organizations. They have been among the most active workers, and they have, with rare exceptions, been found antagonizing the socialistic element in the trades assembly whose councils they have always had the entree, and in which they have wielded material influence. Mr. Nelson has been a candidate for president of the assembly, but never succeeded in securing an election; George Rodgers is a member of the state executive and district assembly No. 24, executive boards, and John Foley is also on the executive of No. 24.

The prominence of these gentlemen gives a tinge of sensationalism to the action of No. 1755 in calling on them to withdraw from the trades assembly, and meeting of the latter body to-morrow afternoon gives promise of being a lively one.

It is denied in what ought to be authoritative circles, that Grand Master Workman Powderly's order to the Knights to withdraw their delegates from the trades assemblies had reached here, but if it has not, it is asserted that it is expected, and No. 1755 has forestalled it. It is believed other assemblies will undoubtedly follow suit, and that the much anticipated internecine war in the labor organizations has begun.

A Duel with Sabres Between an Editor and a Student.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—A duel with swords was fought yesterday in Humboldt park. Arrangements being completed, the principals each drew a shining sabre and the contest began. Soon both were wounded. One received the sword through the breast His opponent was cut across the face, and will probably bear the scar for some time. With this drawing of blood the duelists seemed to be satisfied, for they quietly got into their carriages, which were rapidly driven to the nearest drug store. There the wounds were dressed and the duelists again in carriages, were rapidly driven out of sight.

The principals are editor of the *Pharmaceutical Journal* and a young medical student as the principals. It is said the cause of the affair was a dispute as to the hand of a young lady. The park policeman was a distant spectator of the fight, but was too dumbfounded to attempt interference. The druggists declined absolutely to refer to the subject.

Michigan Salt.

EAST SAGINAW, Dec. 20.—The annual report of the state salt inspector, showing operations of the state inspection law for the year ending November 30, 1886, shows that there are in the state 136 firms engaged in the manufacture of salt, operating 140 works and 4,500 solar covers, with an estimated annual capacity of 5,165 barrels of salt. During the year 3,677,257 barrels were inspected—an increase of 379,984 over 1885. The actual manufacture amounted to 4,097,943 barrels—an increase of 798,169 barrels over 1885. The inspector estimates that there was in the manufacturers' hands December 1, 1,500,000 barrels.

SAD FATE OF A YOUNG GIRL

Who Left Indiana to Take Up a Homestead in the West.

VINCENNES, Ind., Dec. 17.—A message was received from the Indianapolis Insane Asylum at the home of Miss Lydia Pickel, a day or two ago, which reveals the last chapter of a sad story. The message was as follows:

"Lydia Pickel is lying at the point of death. Come, if you would see her alive."

The dying girl lived in Harrodsburg, Lawrence county. She was one of a numerous family. She accumulated a snug sum of money, which she was ambitious to invest to the best advantage. She learned that under the homestead law she could secure a considerable tract of land with her little store of money, and with this thought in view she set out for the West.

On the way to her destination she had to travel a long way by stage coach. One dark night the coach was entered by several drunken cowboys. Seeing a defenseless woman was the only occupant of the coach save themselves, they attacked her. It will never, perhaps, be known what really took place in the stage-coach on the lonely prairie that night. It is only known that the poor girl escaped from her persecutors by jumping from the coach.

Three or four days later a woman, with most of her clothes torn from her person, was found wandering aimlessly about on the open prairie. When captured she was found to be hopelessly insane. Fortunately a man from Lawrence county, Ind., was present, and he at once identified her as Miss Lydia Pickel, whom he had known from childhood.

A guard was provided, and the poor girl was sent home, and from there to the state asylum for the insane. Her case was beyond the power of human skill, her mental ailment being long since pronounced incurable. Her physical health has been gradually failing.

KNIGHTS IN THE SOUTH.

The South Carolina Legislature on the Labor Question.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Dec. 18.—The efforts of some of the organizers of the Knights of Labor in this state to enroll colored people in the order has caused much bitter feeling against the order by farmers. Some papers advise farmers "to shoot" all white men, like Russell, endeavoring to organize Knights of Labor, and to drive them from the neighborhood. These journals have advised that the legislature should appropriate money for the maintenance of militia, as well equipped soldiers will be needed if this organization goes on. This the legislature has done, and to further protect farmers against the organization of colored people living on the plantations, the Senate has passed by a large majority, and the House will undoubtedly pass it, a bill making it conspiracy, punishable by fine and imprisonment, to interfere between employer and employe in any contract, whether written or verbal.

The possibility of a strike at cotton picking time, when the whole crop of the state would be lost if not promptly gathered, was the principal argument used, together with the declaration that if a strike occurred among negroes much more blood would be spilled than last summer in Chicago and St. Louis.

BUSINESS REVIEW.

The Past Week One of Unusual Excitement—Increase in Business Failures.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—R. G. Dun & Co. issue the following weekly trade review: The past has been a week of unusual excitement. The sharp decline in the stock market was forshadowed by the recent unhealthy advance in securities, and in some of these the fall was $20 to $57 per share. But fifteen active stocks, on which sales of 1,000 shares or more occurred, and which I do not intend to break again, viz.: not to speak at a political meeting again while I hold the position of chief officer of the Knights of Labor. the average price of active stocks, good and bad, fell $8.30 per share from December 4 to the lowest point on Wednesday last.

Some recovery has since occurred, but it is yet too soon to determine whether bottom has been reached. It is surprising and creditable that thus far only one failure in the exchange has resulted from such a fall. Money was artificially locked up, beyond doubt, and the decline thus increased. The rate rose from 6 to 8 per cent. on Saturday, to 10 per cent. as the lowest and 18 per cent. as the highest on Wednesday. This difficulty has been met by shipments from many interior points, by the arrival of $1,400,000 on Thursday from France, and the shipment of two millions from London, and by the treasury's offer to prepay nine millions interest.

So far the Wall street excitement has no effect on general business. Other speculative markets were neglected, and the sales were far below previous records.

Dry goods are less active, but the trade not healthy. Exchanges outside New York still show that the volume of business at the North is very large, though some depression exists in parts of the South.

The business failures occurring throughout the country during the last seven days number for the United States 260, and for Canada 28, a total of 288, against 274 last week and 242 the week previous. The casualties in the Middle, Western, Southern and Pacific States are above the average in number, which is also the case in Canada. In New York city fifteen failures are reported, only two of which are of consequence.

TEXAS CATTLE DISEASE.

It is Not Pleuro-Pneumonia, but Quick Consumption.

DALLAS, Dec. 18.—Dr. Paaran, United States veterinary inspector, yesterday made an official examination of the cattle disease in this locality, as directed by Dr. Salmon, chief of the bureau at Washington. Dr. Paaran was assisted by Dr. Hopkins, of Wyoming Territory, at the request of Texas cattlemen. A cow suffering the most from the prevailing sickness was killed and dissected. The examination disclosed no evidence of pleuro-pneumonia, and Drs. Paaran and Hopkins, and all present, were fully satisfied that no contagious disease exists or has existed among Texas cattle during the present period of alarm.

The substance of their findings is that the cattle are affected with tuberculosis, with indications of splenic or acclimation fever. In other words, the delicate, unregistered Jerseys imported from Indiana have been attacked since coming to Texas with a sort of quick consumption. They have been well cared for and warmly housed in Indiana in severe weather, and when exposed outdoors to the rigors of Texas winter northers, they have succumbed. All alarm over the sickness has abated.

A FEMALE SMUGGLER.

A Crescent-Shaped Tin Bustle, Filled with Cuban Rum.

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 18.—The customs office have made a seizure of an unique article. It is a bustle made of tin, in the shape of crescent, so as to fit snugly, at either end. It is very thin, but expanded so as to be about an inch and a half wide about the middle, and the inside holds exactly one gallon. When discovered by the lady inspector at Tampa, the owner had it on in its proper place, and it answers admirably for the purpose for which such things are used, but, unfortunately for the owner, it was found to contain a gallon of fine Cuban rum which she was evidently endeavoring to smuggle.

For some time it has been suspected that this lady was engaged in some peculiar business, which made necessary frequent trips to and from Cuba. After consultation it was decided to make the proper inquiry. When first questioned, the lady exhibited much indignation that she should be even suspected, and finally began to weep. However, the lady that was appointed to make the inspection was kind but firm, and the result was the discovery of the mysterious bustle filled with rum.

Sugar and Molasses.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Sen. Aldrich offered a concurrent resolution requesting the President to enter into negotiations with the governments of the several principal sugar producing countries of the world with a view of securing mutual agreements by which the United States shall agree to admit free of duty sugar and molasses, the products of such countries or their colonies, when transported in vessels under the flag of either contracting party, and on which sugar and molasses no export tax or export charge has been levied, or condition that such government shall admit into their respective countries or sugar producing colonies (free of duty) the mineral, agricultural and manufactured products of the United State. Laid on the table.

A Poor Man's Luck.

FINDLAY, O., Dec. 18.—Attorneys of H. L. Shears, a poor man employed at one of the hotels in this city, have received information that he is one of three heirs to 800 acres of valuable land in West Virginia, near the Ohio river. Shears left home when quite young and wandered about for years. He came here about a month ago from Wellsville, N. Y., and in some way received word that his parents were dead and that they left a large estate. He put his case in the hands of attorneys, who now have proof of his heirship, and he will shortly take possession of his rightful share of the property. The estate is now in the hands of two of his brothers, who have long thought him dead.

"IF SO SOON DONE FOR," ETC.

The United Labor Party Going to Pieces in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 15.—The indications are that the newly-formed United Labor party in this city will go to pieces before a candidate for mayor is nominated for labor candidate for mayor is nominated for the spring municipal contest. The split in the convention held Monday night over the admission as a delegate of Gorsuch, the anarchist, threatens the most serious results to the infant party. Not less than 30 Germans, each having a considerable following in his local organization, withdrew from the convention. The German socialist element in the party claims that the Knights of Labor are endeavoring to mould the party and the platform according to their own wishes, without regard to the interests to labor in general. This is the rock on which wise political leaders of the other parties predicted the labor movement would go to pieces.

In addition to the contentions and wranglings between diverse elements in the new party itself, another difficulty arises in the shape of outside influence upon the wizard leaders by politicians of other parties. One of the leaders in the movement said, yesterday, that he was becoming disgusted with the condition of affairs, and that if he found his suspicions of political trickery in the ranks verified, he would immediately withdraw from the new party.

The fact that Henry George, to whom the declaration of principles was submitted last week, expressed his disapproval of the document, has brought discouragement to many of the most enthusiastic labor advocates, and it is an open secret that they are seriously considering withdrawal from the movement.

Chicago Socialists on the Temperance Question.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—The socialists held a meeting yesterday afternoon. Mr. T. J. Morgan read "an open letter to the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the clergy of Chicago, from the workingmen in mass meeting assembled," in which he denied the charge that the workingmen of this country were especially intemperate. Complaints of discrimination in the treatment of "wine-befuddled clubmen" and "beery workingmen" were made, and it was claimed that at all the numerous socialistic balls and picnics no intoxicated person had yet been arrested. "That intemperance exists among us, we must acknowledge, though we claim and can prove that it is the result and not the cause of the environment and associations that we are compelled to endure."

It states that the principal cause of intemperance are heredity social customs and industrial conditions, and makes what they claim to be an adequate explanation of each. "The cure for intemperance must begin with the improvement of the social and industrial condition of the workers. It is useless, it is illogical, to talk of a cure that begins anywhere else." It is asked that the money "wasted upon the heathen," be devoted to the establishment of baths, gymnasiums, reading rooms and music halls. In the discussion which followed, prohibition was denounced, high license advocated, and the statement was made that "the clubs in the city consumed more liquor and did more gambling than the poor men and the gambling houses combined," after which the paper was adopted as the sense of the assembly.

Knights of Labor and the Catholic Church.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A great deal of interest is being taken by the Knights of Labor in the case of Father McGlynn, of New York. They are anxious, it is said, for a speedy decision in the matter, so that the order will know what to expect from the Catholic church.

Some of the Knights here say that if the Catholic authorities expected to leave the order, the church will be hurt more than the Knights. They think their order might receive a set-back if the church should sit down upon it, but in such case they would in time win much more than they could lose, and would know whom to fight in the future. In an article in the organ of the Knights, in which the labor and Irish landlord questions are discussed in connection with Father McGlynn, is the following paragraph:

"When the church strikes at the means of life, and makes an article of faith that the tens of thousands of Irishmen must be and starve that a few Irish landlords may live in idle luxury, it simply drives the great masses of the people out of its fold. Life is a struggle for existence, and when the church proposes to use the religious sentiment and theological superstition of men to make the struggle hard for the thousands, while relieving the one from any struggle, then is rung the death knell of any church. Henry George's theories can well stand the anathema of the church, but the church can not afford to anathematise them."

A Rich Silver Mine in Indiana.

EVANSVILLE, Ind., Dec. 20.—Residents in Dubois county, this district, are greatly excited over the development of a rich silver mine near Buck Shoals, on the east fork of white river. The discovery of silver dates back to the beginning of the century, when, according to an old story, James Gynn, who was locating a farm near Hazelville, discovered silver ore in rich quantities. He went East to interest speculators in the venture, but they refused to assist him. He came back to his "find," but was taken ill with a malignant fever, and died two days after return.

No one cared to investigate the story until two years ago, when John Seitz became interested in the matter and began prospecting at Buck Shoals. He discovered ore in large quantities, and had many specimens analyzed, all yielding more or less silver. Two weeks ago he sent specimens to Indianapolis to be assayed, the result showing silver in paying quantities. He at once leased the land about his own little property, and is now preparing a car load of the ore to be sent to St. Louis to be smelted. Buck Shoals is situated in a mountainous region. The vein is said to be very easy of access.

A Floating Coffin.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 20.—Thousands of people visited the wreck of the whaler Atlantic on the ocean beach, yesterday. None of the 25 sailors, still missing, have been found, although the beach has been searched for miles. The investigation of the causes which led to the disaster will be interesting. The Atlantic was a fair sample of the vessels composing the large whaling fleet which sails out of San Francisco. She looked as seaworthy as any of the fleet, but as she lies on the beach here, broken into matchwood, it is plain that she was a floating coffin. The surf on the sandy beach beat her into pieces as if she had been stuck together with glue. One can pull the ringbolts out of her rotten timbers. Her shattered boats show the same criminal disregard of life. The boards of which they are made are of the poorest material, loosely tacked together with the cheapest nails, and painted over to hide the defects. A prudent man would not trust the boats for a duck hunt on a pond, much less for a whaling expedition in the Arctic.

The Oldest Person in the World.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—A letter from Sassakawa, Seminole Nation, Indian Territory, gives an account of the death there, on the 15th inst., of Mrs. Susana Warren, perhaps the oldest person in the United States, if not in the world. She was born in the old town of St. Augustine, Fla., in 1750, fifteen years before the Americans conceived the idea of national independence. She was born a slave, and was the property of a Spanish master until 1818, when she, with other Spanish slaves, fled from the town of Pensacola when it was taken by Gen Jackson. She lived in the Seminole country from then until the second treaty of peace with the Seminoles, when she was regarded as their common property, and was removed with them to the Indian Territory. She leaves one daughter living, who resides in Austin, Tex., and is in her 97th year. She leaves many grandchildren here, some of them nearly 70 years of age.

A Rich and Charitable Woman Dying.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Miss Catharine Lorillard Wolfe, who is dying from Bright's disease, was in about the some precarious condition yesterday that she has been in for several weeks. Miss Wolfe is noted for her extensive charities, and as being probably the richest unmarried woman in the United States.

Her benefactions have been widespread, and amount to far more than $1,000,000. In one year she has been known to give away over $250,000. To Episcopal funds for schools and hospitals, and mission work generally, she has contributed generously, besides making large bequests to church institutions in the West. It is said that her collection of paintings, which is valued at more than $500,000, may be kept intact and left to the city or some art society.

Jealous of Powderly.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The various leaders of the trades and labor organizations of this city hold different opinions regarding the effect and probable outcome of the order from General Master Workman Powderly, directing all assemblies of the Knights of Labor to withdraw their delegates to the Federation of Trades. Some are of the opinion that the leaders of the Federation of Trades are jealous of Powderly, because a union of the Knights and the trades assembly would cause them to yield their position.

M'QUADE SENTENCED.

The "Boodlers" Demoralized — Gen Tracy's Efforts to Save His Client Unavailing—An Immense Crowd of Spectators in Attendance —Seven Years and a Fine of $5,000.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Ex-Alderman McQuade was this morning sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $5,000.

The last act of the McQuade drama seems to have even more interest for the public than the scenes of the trial. This morning Chambers street and the approaches to the brown-stone court-house of the general sessions were thronged with hundreds of people. Admission was free to all, and the large court-room in part 2 was densely packed. The other "boodlers" were conspicuous by their absence.

McQuade was escorted into the court-room by Under Sheriff Sexton and Order of Arrest Clerk Martin. There was not the "hail fellow" appearance about McQuade that characterized his appearance on Friday. He took his old seat and very quietly waited for the hour of his sentence.

At 11 a. m., Recorder Smyth entered and took his seat. With the memory of the Jaehne case, the audience had the idea that there was no hope for McQuade, and that he would at once receive sentence. The district attorney, with his assistants and the counsel for McQuade, came in together.

The motion for a new trial was denied, Gen. Tracy taking an exception. McQuade was ordered to stand up, and did so, with his thumbs in his pantaloons pockets.

"The defense," remarked Gen Tracy, "has nothing to say why sentence should not be pronounced against him; we rely on his former good character and the esteem in which he is still held by his neighbors and acquaintances, who are many of them here, for the leniency of the court."

The recorder said, in substance: "Arthur J. McQuade, you have been fairly and justly convicted of bribery. You were elected to perform a public duty and public trust; instead of doing so you violated that trust. Your character as a business man, citizen, father, husband, is good, I have sympathy for your wife and family. You should have considered them before you did wrong. You did not add to the crime of which you have been convicted of, as Jaehne did, by taking the stand and committing perjury.

"I have reason to believe that you received as much money as Duffy did $10,000. That money is not your; it is not the property of your family. If it is left with them it will work the inevitable results of ill-gotten gains. I would advise you to give and pay back to the city the money which you received, and I have no doubt it would work to your benefit. The sentence of the court is that you be confined in state's prison at hard labor for a term of seven years, and that you pay a fine of $5,000."

During the sentence McQuade stood up, his arms folded across his bosom in the manner habitual to him. The chair was a little elevated; his head inclined a little to one side, and his brow knitted, the whole pose and the expression of the face being that of one listening to a voice difficult to hear.

At its close he sat down, turned immediately, and, with a business-like air, entered into a conversation with Gen. Tracy, as if we were discussing a bargain just consummated. After the sentence was given the audience dispersed, McQuade going out with his keepers and the faithful brothers who had stood by his side throughout his trial. The counsel for McQuade obtained a copy of the sentence, and then left the room. McQuade was immediately taken to the tombs, and, after the usual formalities, was locked in cell 17.

A "Mixed" Cargo and a Stormy Passage.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The steamer Werra come into port yesterday with a queer cargo. She had on board three gigantic horses, twelve wild boars, 500 English pheasants, 3,000 canaries, 50 wild rabbits, and a boy and a girl, each about four days old.

The Werra had a very tempestuous passage. She left Bremen on the 8th, and at once ran into a storm which lasted all the way to Southhampton. At the English port a large mail—180 bags—was taken on board. In the English Channel they had fair weather, but afterward encountered heavy seas and gales. The vessel could not make more than 300 miles a day. In mid-ocean one of the steerage passengers gave birth—one to a girl, the other to a boy. A storm was howling at the time. The infants were named for the ship—Werra.

The three horses are imported by a farmer in the vicinity of Chicago for the improvement of his stock. They came from Altenburg, and are the huge proportions of the Flemish dray horse. The wild boars, it is said, were caught in the Hartz mountains. The purpose is to liberate them in various parts of the country, so as to introduce the royal sport of "pig sticking." Some of the boars will be sent to Judge Caton's deer farm at Ottowa, Ill.

A Fortune of £1,000,000 Left to Three Sisters.

ERIE, Pa., Dec. 16.—Mrs. Hugh Jones, of this city, has received official notification from Calcutta, of the death of a brother named Henry Hughes, leaving an estate valued at one million pounds. According to the provisions of the will, the money will be distributed among Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Ryan of thit city, and a sister in Wales.

In early life the family separated, while living in Wales. The brother went to Calcutta, and two sisters came to this city to live. Since that time the brother has acquired his immense wealth in shipping interests. Before his death he sought the addresses of his sisters, and bequeathed to them his immense fortune, which raises them from comparatively low stations into affluence.

Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish—A Happy Family.

NEW YORK, Dec. 16.—Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton Fish gave a reception last evening at their residence on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of their marriage. The reception was confined to the relatives and nearest friends. Mr. Fish's full beard is silvery now, but his luxuriant hair is as dark as when he was secretary of state in Gen. Grant's cabinet.

Mrs. Fish was Miss Keane, of South Carolina, 50 years ago. Her grandfather represented South Carolina in the old confederation of states which preceded the constitutional union of states. Mr. and Mrs. Fish have seven children and seventeen grandchildren. All of them were present, except one of the grandsons, who is at school in England.

The Labor Party.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19.—Workmen's hall was filled to overflowing this afternoon, the occasion being the mass meeting to decide whether there would be a labor ticket in the field in the municipal election next April. The question was thoroughly discussed and finally resolutions were adopted declaring it expedient to nominate separate members of municipal officers. The committees of five men each were appointed from the United Labor party, Central Labor union, Henry George club, and meeting. These committees will meet and arrange preliminaries for a labor convention.

Given Ten Minutes to Leave.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 20.—In accordance with the resolution adopted at the recent meeting of citizens of Hinds county, Miss., warning emigration agents not to come to that county, a number of citizens waited, yesterday, on some of these agents who were trying to get hands for planters, and requested them to desist. On their refusing to do so, they were visited by the executive committee of fifteen, which was instructed to see the resolution carried out. The agents were told to leave town within ten minutes. They left.

Old Mrs. Wheller's Will.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 17.—The will of Mrs. Jane Wheller, the old woman who was recently murdered, and whose aged husband was arrested for the crime, was offered for probate this morning. The estate is valued at from $150,000 to $200,000, and the greater part of it is left to a nephew, Thomas E. Shaw, of Birmingham, Eng.

The Western Reserve School of Design for women of this city, gets property valued at $20,000. The remainder of the estate is divided among numerous relatives. The tenants, who have lived in Mrs. Wheller's houses for more than five years, get $50 each.

South Dakota.

HURON, Dak., Dec. 15.—About one hundred members of the constitutional convention and all the members of the so-called legislature of South Dakota are here, also "Gov." Milette, United States Senator Edgerton, and other prominent supporters of the government. It seems inevitable from the general sense of the ordinance will be restraining clause of the ordinance will be repealed, and a date set for the state government to begin running.

A Gleam of Hope for McQuade.

NEW YORK, Dec. 21.—Judge Pratt, of the Brooklyn Supreme court, to-day granted an order to show cause why a stay should not be granted to McQuade, the boodle exalderman who was yesterday sentenced to seven years' imprisonment and to pay a fine of $5,000, returnable to-morrow at 10 a. m.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

A DUEL IN CANADA.

It Is Not Safe to Fool Around a Poet Editor.

OTTAWA, Dec. 20.—The first duel fought in Canada in many years occurred here at a late hour Saturday night. The principals were John T. White, an old-time Canadian journalist and poet editor of a weekly paper called the *Investigator*, and J. Hanrahan, a machine agent. The duel was fought in a small wood on the outskirts of the city. Promptly at the hour the principals appeared. Overtures looking towards a patching up of the difficulty were made by the seconds, but with no avail. "His blood," White said, "had been wounded to the quick, and nothing short of an appeal to the god of battles would satisfy him."

The ground was therefore at once paced off, and the men were placed in position at ten paces, with their backs turned toward each other. The men fought with revolvers of 32 calibre. At the word "fire," the two pistols rang out simultaneously. The effect was nil.

White got ahead with his second shot, and the machine agent fell. His second and the doctor ran up to the wounded man, and it was announced to the victor that his enemy was shot back in the groin. He expressed satisfaction with the result, and left the field in a hurry, his honor fully avenged.

The wounded man was taken to the hospital, and he is said to be doing well. His wound is not dangerous. White is understood to have fled to the United States. The police are on the lookout for him.

Bennett and Field.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—In the appeal of James Gordon Bennett against the decision awarding Cyrus W. Field £5,000 damages for statements derogatory to the latter, published in the New York *Herald*, the court of appeal, to-day, quashed the verdict against Mr. Bennett. The present decision takes the ground that Mr. Bennett, not being a British subject, nor a resident of Great Britain, the substituted service on him in London upon which the verdict was obtained was illegal. The court condemns Mr. Field to pay the costs.

French and English in Africa About to Come to Blows.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The *Bombay Gazette* says that the French are actively intriguing against the British in the Somalie country on the African east coast, south of the Gulf of Aden.

A party of Frenchmen, the *Gazette* says, recently hoisted the French flag over Dongarita, which lies within the territory under British protection. The English agent at Bulharas has gone with a force of 25 men to remove the flag. Two French gunboats have left Aden since the agent's departure, and it is rumored that they have proceeded to Dongarita. The British gunboat Penguin has followed the French vessels.

Dillon Sent to Jail.

DUBLIN, Dec. 16.—John Dillon, member for East Mayo; Wm. O'Brien, editor of *United Ireland*; Matthew Harris, member for East Galway, and Patrick Sheehy, member for South Galway, were arrested today in the town of Loughrea,